

the chronicle

**All aboard for 2012
as works begins on
town's bus station**

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**A folly good show
after restoration
work finally ends**

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**The shape of things
to come in glittering
future for glassworks**

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Businesses champion the region

BUSINESS leaders behind the Black Country's plan to create a Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) have met key Government officials.

While the Black Country's bid was not initially approved, work is continuing on refining the proposal, which would see councils and businesses work together to share ideas.

The creation of the business-led Black Country LEP is supported by Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton Councils, more than 11 strategic businesses and the skills, education and transport sectors.

Stewart Towle, from Hadley Industries PLC, who will chair the shadow Black Country LEP, said: "Last week's announcement may not have included approval for the Black Country LEP but we are all confident that this is just around the corner."

Charity gift is bloomin' great

A FLOWER club said it with money when they handed over more than £2,300 to a war charity recently.

Halesowen Flower Club raised £2,370 for Help for Heroes during the past 12 months through a series of activities, including plant, book and card sales.

Major Ian Baldry, a long-serving member of the Territorial Army who helps coordinate fundraising for the national charity, visited the club to pick up the cheque.

Union card to help avoid debt

A CREDIT union in Dudley is offering a new service to residents wanting to save for the festive period.

Castle and Crystal Credit Union in Dudley has set up a new scheme which allows members an Alto Mastercard which can be pre-loaded with cash. The Dudley Council-backed service says the card can then be used to purchase goods up to the value on the card to avoid debt.

Park fence finished

A £55,000 project to erect a steel fence at parts of a Wordsley park has been completed. Work started at King George V Park after a 10ft section of the brick boundary wall collapsed. Fencing has been installed in its place after Dudley Council chiefs said it could have cost £100,000 to rebuild the wall.

Best foot forward for an easier route

COMMUTERS can help reduce their carbon footprint by taking advantage of a new service offering easier access to Stourbridge Junction Train Station.

Transport authority Centro and Dudley Council have spearheaded the Travel Corridor initiative, installing signs, low kerbing and tactile paving to aid partially sighted and blind walkers.

Improvements have been made on the pedestrian links between the train station and Mary Stevens Park, Oldswinford Local Centre and other employment, education, healthcare and leisure services.

Easy

The Dudley healthy towns project and Centro's Sustainable Travel Team have both been involved in the scheme, which it's hoped will improve provision of walking and cycling across the borough.

Councillor Angus Adams, Centro chairman and Dudley Council's cabinet member for transportation, said: "At Centro we are working to make it as easy as possible for people to leave their cars at home and travel in more environmentally friendly ways. Nearly all public transport



Making use of one of the new crossings at Stourbridge Junction are, from left, Councillor Angus Adams, cabinet member for transport, park warden Dave Scott, Councillor David Stanley, cabinet member for environment and leisure and park warden Matt Owen

journeys start and end with a connection on foot or bike.

"That's why we've been working with Dudley Council to improve the route to Stourbridge Junction

Train Station and make it easier for people to cut their carbon footprint."

Dudley Council's cabinet member for environment and

culture, Councillor David Stanley, said the Travel Corridors were just one of the ways the local authority were encouraging people to be active. "Walking and

cycling is much better than using the car for short journeys; it's less stressful, great for the environment and has health benefits too," he added.

FITNESS CRAZE JOY AT CENTRE

A LEISURE CENTRE in the Black Country is to have £100,000 spent on improvements after membership rocketed from 350 to 1,300 in just two years.

Dudley Council is to invest the cash at the Crystal Leisure Centre in Stourbridge town centre, with bosses saying they want to make it one of the most popular in the region.

The money will be spent on new equipment to cope with demand as people have recently started to cancel

their membership as there are not enough free machines.

New fitness equipment including treadmills and exercise bikes will all be bought. A report to council chiefs says the scheme will be funded by the increased membership that will come from having the new equipment available.

Popular

As there will be more machines for people to use, the number of cancellations is expected to drop, bringing in more cash.

An extra £60,000 income is expected to be generated by the new machines.

More pieces of the most popular equipment will be brought into the gym – mainly cross trainers, treadmills

and bikes. Bosses hope the move will help the leisure centre grow into one of the most popular in the Black Country.

But although they say the increase in membership is positive, they admit the centre needs to be better equipped to handle more customers.

The council report reads: "Existing customers are cancelling their membership agreements, citing as the reason problems of accessing the equipment due to the gym operating at maximum occupancy levels, particularly at peak periods."

The council will also spend £10,000 on electrical works as part of the installation of the new equipment.

This will be funded through the existing repairs and maintenance budget. The leisure centre's gym reopened

Narrowboat trips left high and dry

A COUNCIL-owned canal boat offering tours of Black Country waterways and Christmas shopping trips to Birmingham has been left high and dry after the skipper's sudden death.

Since Paul Turner, who was in his 50s, died the boat has remained moored up for four months. No employee has a boat master licence to run the trips.

The boat, the Aaron Manby, has room for 37 people and has been available for rent from Tipton's Malt-house Stables, an outdoor pursuits centre, for the last 20 years. Sandwell Council said the centre has suspended trips and the boat's future was under review.

Grottos and fun to greet festive season

THE first details of Dudley's £20,000 Christmas celebrations can be revealed – with grottos, reindeer, a craft market and celebrity guests all on the agenda.

The festivities will be kicking off later this month in Halesowen, Brierley Hill, Dudley and Stourbridge.

Dudley Council said it wanted people to turn out in force to enjoy the celebrations and give local traders a seasonal boost.

Dudley Council deputy leader Les Jones said: "We would encourage as many people as possible to get into the festive spirit and support these events."

Halesowen will host the first of the big switch-ons on November 20.

Dancing

Entertainment is planned throughout the day from 10am until 5pm including funfair rides, street entertainment, a radio roadshow and free facepainting and balloon modelling.

Father Christmas will also be in attendance.

The fun then moves to Brierley Hill town centre on November 26.

Families will be able to visit Santa and his reindeer in his grotto between 4-6pm.

There will also be dancing and live music and Bob The Builder will be on hand to meet the crowds.

The following day in Dudley town centre, Santa will once again be meeting youngsters in his grotto between midday and 5pm.

There will also be the opportunity to enjoy funfair rides and free face painting.

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Break-ins targeting boilers in homes

AT LEAST 10 copper boilers have been stolen from homes, say Dudley police, with properties under renovation being targeted.

Houses are being left to flood after pipes are ripped out, said Det Sgt Mark Rushton, of the burglary team.

"It's still a huge problem, both locally and nationally, but we are doing a lot to target it."

"People are breaking into properties that are being renovated, stealing the copper boilers and piping, and leaving the places flooded."

He said there had been 10 such cases in the last two months in Dudley, with thieves able to make up to £60 from scrap dealers.

Industrial

Det Sgt Rushton urged householders who may think empty homes are safe from burglars to ensure lights are left on and curtains put up.

"We're really hammering the scrap yards who are taking stolen property," he added.

Earlier this month, £20,000-worth of aluminium castings and £10,000 worth of stolen beer kegs were recovered from an industrial unit in Gornal.

And last week hundreds of vans and trucks carrying metal were pulled over in the hunt for stolen scrap. The crimewave has been fuelled by soaring metal prices, which have been triggered by construction booms in the Middle East.

Thefts have also caused chaos on the railways.

Recyclers fined £13,000 after worker passes out

A LYE recycling firm has been fined £13,000 after nitrogen gas used to stop explosions made a worker pass out.

Halesowen magistrates heard that it was fortunate that no one was seriously harmed during the incident. Overton Recycling, Rufford Street. The court was told it was usual for workers at to climb into the chute of a fridge recycling machine.

In June 2009, Stephen Barnes, aged 47, was working on the machine used to recycle fridges. A chute fed the fridges inside the machine to be broken up but as

they have the potential to explode, the machine contained nitrogen gas to help reduce the risk of a blast. Sometimes the fridges would twist and get stuck and it was usual for workers to climb in to clear the blockages.

When Mr Barnes, from Birmingham, did this on the day of the incident, the nitrogen inside the chute made him pass out so he had to be rescued by a colleague.

He was taken to hospital and was off work for three days and although he made a full physical recovery, he has since suffered from a lack of sleep, flashbacks and mood swings that are only now subsiding.

The firm was prosecuted by the Health and Safety Executive after its inspection found the presence of the nitrogen in the chute had not been assessed before people got inside to clear blockages.

Overton also failed to carry out a sufficient risk assessment that would have identified the risks of climbing into a confined space. A system should have been in place for clearing blockages that did not require entry in to the chute.

HSE inspector Angela Gallagher said had the firm ensured all machinery and processes were properly assessed the nitrogen would have been identified as a hazard and the right safety systems installed.

"All too often in cases like this we see multiple fatalities as people try to rescue a colleague from a confined space without taking precautions themselves," she said. "It is fortunate that no one was more seriously harmed on this occasion."

The firm pleaded guilty to breaching health and safety regulations and was also had to pay £6,107 costs.

Crime worries on mentally ill

THOUSANDS of criminals with mental health problems in Dudley and Walsall are not getting the help they need, a Black Country MP has warned ministers.

Stourbridge Tory Margot James said that almost 2,000 people with severe mental health problems in the areas are on probation or in jail, but only 40 are in contact with mental health services.

Police set up market chats

A MARKET stall for police officers to chat to people about issues affecting them has been launched in Sedgley.

The Police Stall has been set up at the Concorde Market, Dudley Street, to encourage the public to chat to officers.

Sgt Tony Osbourne, of Sedgley neighbourhood policing team, said the stall was one of several tactics being used to get in touch with people, alongside Twitter and the

Sedgley Beat blog. "When we started the blog I said that it was just another means of us speaking with, and listening to, our community here in Sedgley - but we recognise that not everyone wants to access that sort of thing online," he said.

"The market stall is another means for community members to get information on local policing and safety."

The stall will not be staffed all the time.

Mairead's artwork is voted tops



Mairead Flannery's artwork Human Diversity is to hang in the office of Education Secretary Michael Gove

SCHOOLGIRL artist Mairead Flannery has beaten off competition from more than 1,000 other youngsters to bring a national prize home to Stourbridge.

The 2010 Arts & Minds competition, organised by teachers' union NASUWT, aims to celebrate cultural diversity through artwork and creative writing.

Mairead, aged 14, a pupil at Redhill School and Specialist Language College, in Junction Road, created a piece she called 'Human Diversity', depicting a boy and a woman separated by darkness.

Minister

She was chosen as winner in the secondary school category, and the judges were so impressed that they went on to name her as overall winner from all 12 sections.

The painting will now go on display in the Westminster office of Michael Gove, the Secretary of State for Education, who said it was "totally professional in quality".

"This is a striking image and very impressive. It is an amazing piece of art," the minister added.

"It is beautiful and thought-provoking and goes to the heart of what Arts & Minds is about."

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All aboard for 2012 hi-tech bus station

BUILDING work started this week to create a £7 million "world class" bus station in Stourbridge.

Bulldozers and diggers moved on to the site in Foster Street East following the closure of the old terminus last month.

The Stourbridge Interchange is due to open for passengers in early 2012. It will include a shop, improved concourse and electronic timetable boards.

The work was launched on Monday by Centro chairman Councillor Angus Adams, Interserve Contracts manager Terry McDonald, who is in charge of the construction project, and Centro chief executive Geoff Inskip.

Councillor Adams said: "It's very exciting to see work start on the new interchange in Stourbridge."

"We have been careful to make sure this new interchange not only gives the people of Stourbridge the world-class facility they deserve but also one they can be proud of as a gateway into their town."

Since the closure of the old bus station, passengers at

Stourbridge have been using temporary bus stops in Birmingham Street and Parkfield Road.

A shuttle bus from the town centre to the temporary stops will run during the first three months of the construction work.

If popular, the service may continue throughout the project.

The completed interchange will include help points and a public address system.

The subway linking the town centre with the bus station will be extended to bring commuters into the middle of the station.

Stopping

Better links will be created to the innovative People Mover connection to Stourbridge Junction, allowing for easy interchange between bus and rail services.

Alternative stopping arrangements for 700 buses that use the station each day have been published on www.networkwestmidlands.com/Stourbridge, the Network West Midlands website page for the town.



Centro chairman Councillor Angus Adams, Interserve contracts manager Terry McDonald and Centro chief executive Geoff Inskip start the work and, left, an artist's impression of how the bus station will look by 2012.



Youth gangs face tougher rules to curb 'hanging out'

COMPLAINTS about yobs hanging around shops and alleyways in Halesowen have led to police seeking and obtaining powers to move them on.

Residents of Shenstone Avenue, Manor Lane, Kent Road, Leasowes Lane and Western Avenue had protested to police.

The streets are near shops and alleyways which officers say are haunts for gangs of youths who loiter and cause a nuisance. Concerns were raised by residents at police meetings and as a result, officers have applied for a dispersal order giving them the power to break up unruly gangs.

The order, which will be in force for six months, comes just days after an extension of a booze ban in public parks and streets in Stourbridge was given the go-ahead by Dudley licensing chiefs.

Perception

The scheme will extend an existing order, if confirmed by the full council, and means parts of Wollaston, the South Road playing fields, and the Old Quarter including Greenfields Park, will be included.

Streets and public areas around Mary Stevens Park, Stourbridge town centre ring road and Hagley Road to Oldswinford Cross have already been designated.

Pc Matt Barnsley, who applied to Dudley Council to secure the new dispersal order for Halesowen, said officers wanted to take positive action to help improve the quality of life for people living in the streets affected.

"The order will help us tackle anti-social behaviour problems head-on. Contrary to public perception, reports of anti-social behaviour actually decrease at this time of year."

"We know residents in this affected area will be delighted to hear something is being done."

Pc Barnsley said Shenstone Avenue was between a row of shops and a park and golf course, which appealed to young people wanting to "hang out" and often led to anti-social behaviour.

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 • Napoli Hazelnut Creme Filled Wafers, 120g
 • Tania Water Crackers, 125g
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 • Jacobsen's Bakery Tin of Biscuits, 150g
 • Robertson's Scotch & Orange Marmalade, 250ml
 • M'Lord Smoked Oysters, 85g
 • Baxters Chickens & Vegetable Soup, 540ml
 • Borges Green Olives with Pimento, 125ml
 • Carr's Sesame Water Crackers, 125g
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 • Rademaker Chocolate Mint sticks, 75g

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thechronicle

Councillor Heather Rogers examines the graffiti sprayed on the community centre days after it was opened

Vandals paint spray attack on new centre

YOBS scrawled graffiti over a new community centre in Stourbridge - just days after construction work was finished as part of a multi-million pound project.

Vandals sprayed paint across shutters at the new Healthy Hub building in Mary Stevens Park, off Heath Lane. The building is used by community groups and includes outdoor gym equipment.

Councillor Heather Rogers, chairman of the Friends of Mary Stevens Park, this week called the vandalism dreadful.

She said youngsters already had a designated graffiti board in the park where they were supposed to paint their designs.

"One day these people will have children of their own, and they will want to take them for days out to parks like ours but if they carry on doing this then they will just be left in a state."

"You can't believe it when we are trying to do things for the community. It is dreadful but the police can't look after these buildings 24 hours a day."

Five Healthy Hub buildings for use by community groups have been built at parks in the borough by Dudley Council following a £4.5 million government grant.

The grant was given to Dudley to help tackle obesity. Outdoor gym equipment and multi-use games areas have also been installed for residents to keep fit.

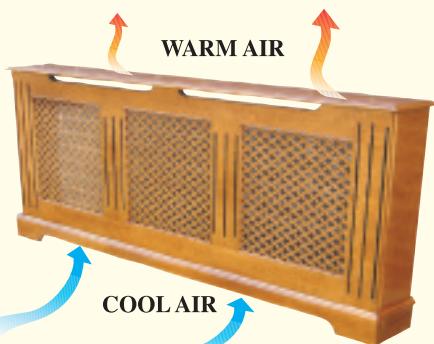
Councillor Rogers said the vandals had also damaged freshly-laid concrete for the foundations and brickwork, forcing workers to re-lay sections of cement.

Park rangers will soon be based within the building and police have access to the hub to use as a drop-in-centre.

The attacks possibly happened overnight between October 31 and November 1, hours after a police-organised Halloween party.

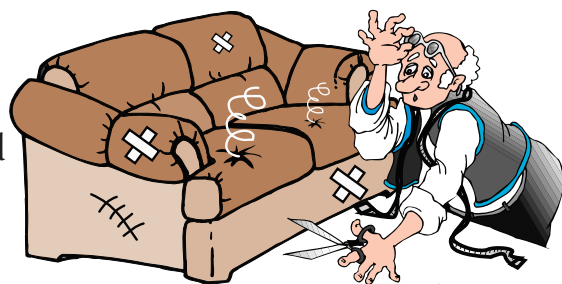
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Street drinks ban near school gates

RULES banning drinking on the streets of Stourbridge are being extended beyond the town centre to tackle a rise in anti-social behaviour.

Gangs have been gathering outside schools and homes late at night causing a nuisance.

Cars have also been vandalised, with wing mirrors broken off and paintwork scratched.

Boozing is currently outlawed in all public streets within the town's ring road and in Mary Stevens Park.

The area is set to more than double after police deemed the current regime a success. They want to stop drunken behaviour which is increasing in other areas. The new alcohol exclusion zone would stretch between South Road, Envile Street and its junction with Bridgnorth Road.

There were 189 alcohol-related and anti-social behaviour incidents in the two years up to the end of September 2010. A particular problem has been Greenfield Primary School and the neighbouring park in Hill Street.

Pc James Bird, of Wollaston and Stourbridge Town neighbourhood team, said: "In the last two years there has been a notable increase in anti-social behaviour, alcohol-related damage and violence."

Dudley Council refuse collectors have had to clear up mess left by yobs. Problems are said to occur mainly between Sunday and Thursday, late at night.

Classic night planned

A SOPRANO and songwriter will perform a selection of classical pieces at a concert being held in Stourbridge. Linda Tolchard will take to the stage at New Road Methodist Church, on December 4 at 7pm. She will be accompanied on piano by Kevin Gill and Katherine Thomas on the harp. Tickets are priced £10 and are available by calling 01384 371864.

Folly good show for peer



Lord Cobham unveiling the Wychbury Obelisk in Hagley Park

A NEWLY-RESTORED monument has been unveiled following a painstaking £600,000 transformation. The Wychbury Obelisk, in Hagley Park, near Stourbridge, was declared dangerous.

Landowner the Earl of Cobham this week celebrated the return to glory of the 84ft monument following a nine-month restoration project.

"The obelisk is seen by many

people as they drive past, so I'm pleased that it is back to its best", he said.

Lord Cobham and heritage organisation Natural England funded the work which involved numbering the stones while the obelisk, a folly built in 1758, was dismantled.

Some stones, including the capping stone which had been hit by lightning, had to be replaced.

Teens in protest to avert closure

YOUNGSTERS using a Stourbridge support centre are to protest against its closure.

The What? Centre is expected to shut by the end of January after a £47,000 annual grant was axed by Dudley Council.

Teenagers who use the centre are planning to set up a public protest to urge a council rethink.

The centre was to close by the end of this month but extra funding from The Sheldon Trust has extended its life.

Centre officer Julie Duffy said: "Now is the time for young people to stand up."

Benefits

"If anyone is interested we would welcome a call and put them in touch with other young people and look at how to move the protest forward."

The centre offers advice on issues including housing, employment, training and health for people aged between 13 and 25.

Last year staff dealt with 8,000 enquiries on work and training, benefits, housing and sexual health.

Council leader Councillor Anne Millward has said the services are available at a lower cost elsewhere.

But Mrs Duffy said: "It just is not the case. We get referrals from GPs, and there are people who don't want to go to clinics for advice, and want to go where they feel more comfortable."

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Threat to cash for centre's revamp

A REVAMP of Dudley's ailing town centre to boost trade and improve living conditions is under threat after funding was slashed by half.

The cash would have been spent on the repair and restoration of historic buildings as well as work to bring derelict sites of architectural interest back into use.

The Townscape Heritage Initiative was aimed at boosting Dudley's prosperity by attracting businesses and creating jobs.

Dudley Council had been relying on £2.15 million from development agency Advantage West Midlands, which is now being abolished, to deliver it.

The Tory deputy leader, Councillor Les Jones, said he believed only about half of the projects earmarked would now come to fruition.

"We will only be able to do priority projects."

He said the question of what was happening with the scheme was raised at a meeting with traders.

Th leader of the Labour opposition, Councillor David Sparks, said the funding cuts would delay the long awaited regeneration of the town centre.

"Dudley is desperately in need of investment. The abolition of AWM has removed at a stroke two-thirds of the money available across the country."

"The remaining one third has been thrown into the melting pot for everyone to bid for so there is no guarantee we will get anything."

"This means Dudley will not get the level of investment it needs and will take a lot longer to recover."

Foundation to preserve glass treasures of town

A NEW charity which wants to raise cash to help secure the future of Dudley's glass collection is being launched this month at Hagley Hall.

The British Glass Foundation hopes the money will help preserve the collections and archives currently at Broadfield House Glass Museum, in Kingswinford, and in storage at Himley Hall. The foundation will set out its aims when it is launched on November 24 - but it wants to work with Dudley Council, which is already planning a museum for the site of the former Stuart Crystal glassworks in Camp Hill, Wordsley.

The foundation has established a board of trustees, which include, Stephen Pollock-Hill, President of British Glass 2010, Charles Hajdamach, historian, author and authority on British Glass, David Williams-Thomas of the Stevens & Williams glass family of Stourbridge, and Graham Knowles, chairman of British Glass Foundation and president of Friends of Broadfield House Glass Museum.

Foundation spokeswoman Janet Hendry said: "The collections and archives housed at Broadfield House Glass Museum and Himley Hall are a national treasure and we believe in these uncertain economic times, should not disappear from public view."

"More of the collections should be available and the existing facility should not be downgraded."

"The collections should have a worthy home and reflect the rich history of Stourbridge glass."

Councillor David Stanley, cabinet member for environment and culture, said: "We look forward to working with the newly formed British Glass Foundation in the future on our joint aims of maintaining and enhancing the borough's glass collections."

Coroner tries to trace family

BLACK Country Coroner's officer Arthur Burgess is trying to trace the next of kin of a man who died at home from natural causes.

David Morrall, aged 70, was found at his home in Lyttleton Avenue, Hurst Green, Halesowen, on Wednesday, October 27.

Mr Burgess can be contacted on 0845 352 7481.

Zoo to show student sculpture

ANIMAL sculptures created by students at Staffordshire University are to go on display at Dudley Zoo, West Midlands Safari Park, and Hanley Park, Stoke-on-Trent.

The exotic animal sculptures were created by foundation degree students at the Stoke campus. They include a penguin, rhinoceros, crocodile, elephant, and zebra, all made entirely from sticks, string, grass, leaves and other natural materials. Anyone who can help with transportation costs is urged to email t.forrester@staffs.ac.uk.

Flap on as bats fall into decline

DUDLEY Zoo aims to highlight the decline in Britain's bats. Zoo bosses say numbers have declined dramatically due to loss of habitat and food and now all 17 British species are protected by law.

The zoo in Castle Hill is doing its bit to preserve the creatures by creating bat roosts in the limestone caverns beneath the site.

The zoo's native species co-ordinator, Ian Hughes, helped survey the caverns for bats in 1997 and continues

to monitor the various species using the area.

He assisted bat expert Dr Robert Stebbings in investigating the Dudley caverns, which are the product of 200 years of limestone mining.

They saw Brandt's Whiskered Daubentons bats, plus evidence of Brown Long Eared and Natterers. Pipistrelle and Noctule bats have also been seen flying over Castle Hill.

Mr Hughes said: "The Dudley caverns are a fantastic habitat for bats."

Litter-picking youngsters excel



At the litter pick are, bottom, Levi Kirby, Emily Williamson and William Stokes, all aged nine, with, top, Adrian Goodhall from McDonald's, school teacher Karen Whyley and Jack Langford and Caroline Groom, also from McDonald's

A BARRIER from a construction site, bits of old cars and even items of discarded clothing were discovered by youngsters from a Dudley school who went out on a litter-pick.

Pupils from Wallbrook Primary School hit the streets as part of a project to benefit the community in conjunction with workers from McDonald's.

The restaurant chain organised the event and supplied litter pickers and black bags.

They also arranged for the rubbish collected by the youngsters to be taken away and disposed of.

Enjoyed

Staff from the restaurant in Birmingham New Road, Coseley, were invited to the school this week for a presentation about recycling in connection with the mass litter-pick, which took place on Tuesday, November 2.

Karen Whyley, a teacher at Wallbrook Primary, in Bradley's Lane, Coseley, said: "We did the litter-pick in the area around the school."

"A total of 27 youngsters from Year 5 took part. All the children really enjoyed it, and they were very enthusiastic."

Firework ignites loft lining

FIRE crews had to use ladders to reach a rocket which became stuck between roof tiles on a house.

When the empty house in Forge Road, Stourbridge, was struck on Saturday evening neighbours called fire crews from Brierley Hill and Stourbridge.

They used two ladders to reach a firework which had set the loft insulation smouldering.

Watch Commander Gavin Pardoe, of Brierley Hill fire station, said the stray firework had embedded within the timber parts of the roof.

"The property was for sale by the look of it and was empty," he said.

"It had not properly caught on fire as the loft lining was just smouldering but if it had been left it could have started."

TV licence on offer to over-75s

PENSIONERS aged 75 and above are being urged to apply for their free TV licence.

Almost 3.9 million people in the UK are entitled to the concession.

In Stourbridge, 71 pensioners are due to turn 75 within the next year and are currently on a short term licence to take them up to their birthday.

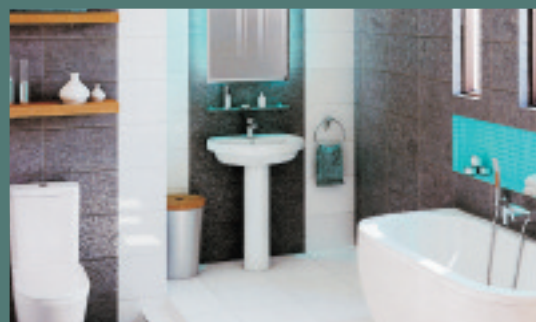
A further 101 pensioners have been identified in Dudley, 62 in Kidderminster, 164 in Wolverhampton, 149 in Walsall and 54 in Cannock.

To apply for a free TV licence, call 0300 790 6073.

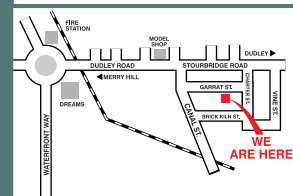
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Backing for new plans to build homes at manor

ENGLISH Heritage has thrown its weight behind plans to build new homes in the grounds of a listed Georgian manor house.

Developer Selbourne Homes has resubmitted proposals to build 14 houses in the shadow of Wordsley Manor, the home of the Firmstone family.

English Heritage was originally against the scheme but has changed its mind after it emerged that £400,000 from the development will be earmarked to help restore the manor house.

The organisation also says the design and layout

of the proposed new houses has been revised to take into account its previous criticisms.

In a letter to the council, English Heritage historic buildings inspector Alan Taylor says: "English Heritage does not object to this resubmitted application which has satisfactorily addressed the concerns which we raised about design and financial justification in the previous application."

"A few issues remain to be resolved over the massing of the new houses as well as managing and ensuring the delivery of the heritage benefits."

The letter also states that the building, which

dates back to the mid 18th century is of particular historic significance for retaining its original interior decorative scheme and features.

More than 100 people signed a petition against the previous application for the site, which was later withdrawn in September last year. A new petition has now been drawn up by Lynda Webb and Yvonne Curtis, who both live in neighbouring Meadowfields Close.

Householders said they are worried about the increase in traffic but Selbourne Homes said it had taken residents' comments into consideration.

Park fence completed

A £55,000 project to instal a steel fence at parts of King George V Park, Wordsley, has been completed.

Work started after a 10ft section of the brick boundary wall collapsed.

Fencing has been installed in its place after Dudley Council chiefs said it could have cost at least £100,000 to rebuild the wall.

Ward councillors are pleased the work has been done before winter.

Councillor Geoff Southall said: "It is a relief that the works have been completed."

Festive fair at hospice

A SEASONAL coffee morning is taking place at Mary Stevens Hospice, Hagley Road, Oldswinford, will open its doors on November 27 from 10.30am to 1pm.

Visitors can buy their hospice Christmas cards, as well as a limited edition calendar, jams, chutneys and soft toys. There will also be a jewellery, home-made cake and craft stalls, as well as cake and coffee.

Nursing staff will be making presentations on the work of the hospice and answering any questions.

Shape of things for Glasshouse



An artist's impression of how the exterior of the Glasshouse site will look

NEW pictures show how a historic former Stourbridge crystal glass factory will look after a £1.85 million Heritage Lottery Fund grant.

It will pay for work at the Glasshouse, on the site of the former Royal Doulton factory.

The currently unused buildings will become a visitor centre with exhibition space as part of a £3.6 million project which has already seen the neighbouring Ruskin Glass Centre transformed into a business centre with 15 workshops.

The £1.85 million will go towards the Lower Glasshouse, off Wollaston Road, providing training courses for Glasshouse College and a visitor attraction with a viewing gallery, heritage trail and cafe.

Work starts early next year and bosses hope to lift visitor numbers from 13,000 to 25,000 by 2015.

The Wollaston Road attraction now houses the Glasshouse College, the Ruskin Glass Centre and the Glasshouse Arts Centre. Crystal glass has been made at the site since 1691.

Ollie Cheney, college principal, said: "This is a very exciting development for the Glasshouse College."

As well as expanding our education facilities it will give our students great opportunities to work with the local community, celebrating and preserving the glass quarter's heritage."



Asima Khalad, chair of the Apni Zoroorat Community Network and volunteer officer, Leanne Mason, get ready for the Pink Party

Volunteers tickled pink

VOLUNTEERS painted the town pink at a family fun day in Lye.

A big pink party was planned by support group Apni Zoroorat Community Network for Wear it Pink Day in a bid to raise cash for breast cancer research.

People of all ages joined in the fun and games at Lye Community Centre where fancy cup cakes and pink lemonade was served.

Also on the agenda were pampering sessions with nail art and henna tattoos, while youngsters enjoyed face

painting sessions. Guests included the mayor of Dudley, Councillor Peter Miller.

Apni Zoroorat works with women, young people and families to help them get better access to local services.

As well as raising funds for breast cancer, the group wanted to use the day to spread the word about their community work at the centre on Crosswalks Road. Contact Apni Zoroorat Community Network on 07792 413179 for more information.



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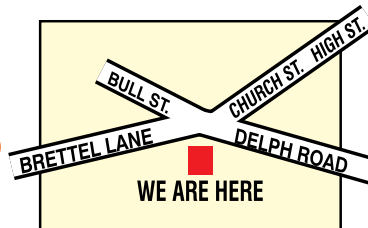
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Future shape of care for elderly



Above: An artist's impression of how the new development in Russells Hall will look
Left: An image of the £8 million retirement village which is planned for Coseley

THESE new images show multi-million pound retirement villages which herald the future of care for older people in the borough.

The development in Coseley will have facilities such as hair and beauty salon, gyms and a library.

Work is also under way on a Russells Hall complex and both are due to be finished by summer next year.

The Coseley scheme, in Whitehouse Street, is a £8 million project and will be made up of 72

apartments while a £16million scheme in Middlepark Road, Russells Hall, will boast 132 apartments and will provide a range of care for the over 55s.

Both will be run by registered social landlord Midland Heart and are the first of five similar schemes planned for Dudley. Residents will be able to choose whether to rent, buy or part-buy their new property.

Security

Dudley Council housing chief Councillor David Simms said: "They are basically like a mini

community. It is independent living but with the security that there is help on hand."

He said that he knew "a lot" of people have already signed up to be kept informed about the developments as they progress which may bode well for the numbers interested in moving in.

Among those with the opportunity to move in are the 29 residents at Ambleside House, King William Street, near Stourbridge, which is earmarked for closure. It is said that the care home will need £1million spent on it to bring it up to scratch.

Crossing campaign on 'death trap' road

CAMPAIGNERS are calling for a pelican crossing on a "death trap" dual carriageway at Halesowen.

The A456 Kidderminster to Birmingham road at Hayley Green was dubbed the second most dangerous road in Britain in a TV documentary.

Pedestrians are often forced to "take their lives in their hands", says Councillor Ken Turner, who is aiming to collect 3,000 signatures on a petition.

Councillor Turner said parents and children struggle to cross the road to reach Lutley Primary School, and there have been a number of near misses.

A 91-year-old man was hit by a car and suffered a broken arm, he added.

Councillor Turner said: "If we don't do something about this road then lives will be at risk."

At least 3,000 names are needed for a debate at a full Dudley Council meeting. Copies of the petition are available from cllr.kenneth.turner@dudley.gov.uk or 0121 501 3930.

Society's award

DUDLEY Building Society is celebrating after being "highly commended" at a national awards ceremony.

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Groups' chance to get help with securing grants

VOLUNTEERS and community groups from across Dudley are being offered help to snap up cash at an information fair.

Running from 2.15pm to 8.30pm on November 16 at the Sycamore Green Adventure Centre, on the Old Park Farm Estate, it will offer advice and support to community groups who are seeking external funding for events, activities and site improvements in parks and green spaces.

There will be a drop-in format with information available from potential funders and organisations throughout the day as well as presentations at 3pm and 7pm.

The event follows successful grant applications from groups who have applied in partnership with the council. Examples include the Friends and Residents of Bullery Park who have recently received a Grassroots Grant for a bike event.

Car builder expands to create 24 new jobs

Recipe to produce star chefs

A Michelin star chef took time out from his busy restaurants to take a look at two new £400,000 kitchens at a Black Country college.

Andreas Antona, head chef at Simpsons in Highfield Road, Edgbaston, chatted to students at Halesowen College and passed on advice. Students were keen to show off the new kitchens, which have been recently unveiled.

Mr Antona held a question and answer session and told students how he worked his way up to the top of his profession.

He said the kitchens were "fantastic". He added: "If you don't get the right start in your career then you don't stand a chance."

Headteacher Keith Bates said the college was hoping to produce a new breed of Michelin star chefs.

Student Beckie Musgrove, aged 18, said: "We feel privileged that he has come to see us. He told us about his restaurant in Birmingham and that he chose the name because of his dad."



Michelin Star chef Andreas Antona with Level II professional diploma students Rhiannon Hutton, aged 16, Jamie Dean, aged 17, and fellow catering students

A BLACK Country sports car maker today unveiled details of a multi-million pound global expansion plan, creating around 24 new jobs for local people.

Bosses at Dudley-based Westfield Sportscars Ltd have confirmed a deal had been signed with a Malaysian manufacturing company and will start exporting products to the country within the next few months.

A similar deal with companies in India is now on the table, with exports beginning before the end of next year.

Shell

Managing director Julian Turner, aged 33, from Kingswinford, said the two new projects would almost double the workforce at the factory, which currently employs 30 people at its base in the Gibbons Industrial Park in Dudley Road, Kingswinford.

He said the new projects would be joint development programmes with Malaysian company DRB-Hicom and an Indian company.

Mr Turner said: "We have cars such as the Lotus 7 which are open-topped, so aren't great for a Malaysian market."

"Our plan is to export the shell that they can then assemble into a model more suitable to sell there."

Walk to Junction appeal

COMMUTERS travelling to and from Stourbridge Junction train station are being encouraged to walk or cycle rather than drive. As part of the £4.5million Dudley Healthy Towns scheme, the pedestrian route from the station to Mary Stevens Park has been significantly improved.

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Tough parking rules eased after protest

A SWEEPING overhaul of parking rules in Stourbridge is to be revised after a flurry of complaints.

Dudley Council chiefs drew up proposals earlier this year to impose parking restrictions on dozens of roads in Stourbridge after requests by residents and businesses.

One of the aims was to stop scores of motorists clogging up streets near the town centre with parked cars for long periods of the day.

Some parts of the parking restrictions plan have been revised after other householders spoke out against the ideas during a consultation.

Some of the changes now being put forward include scrapping proposals to extend double yellow lines in Parkfield Road and shortening the proposed bay for vehicles displaying a blue badge in High Street.

The new plans will go before Stourbridge Area Committee on Monday. A report says that more than 200 objections were received along with five petitions when Dudley Council first advertised the plans.

Shortened

If backed, the new look scheme will go before the cabinet member for transportation, Councillor Angus Adams.

"This is why we put plans out in advance, so people can comment on them," Councillor Adams said.

If approved, a £12,000 scheme to implement the changes in Stourbridge could start within a month.

One of the other elements in the scheme includes the introduction of a no-waiting section between 8am and 5pm on weekdays in Hall Street, Oldswinford, near Stourbridge.

This was in response to a request from a business experiencing difficulties with access to its premises.

But the planned no-waiting section has been shortened after 12 objections and a petition of 55 signatures was lodged with the council.

Protesters said they were concerned over a lack of off-street parking in the area close to their homes.



Bearemy and Pudsey at Merry Hill Shopping Centre with Cathy Acty, Claire Murphy, Laura Mason, Annamarie Grosvenor and Mollie Grosvenor

It's fun shopping for the bear necessities

PUDSEY bear fans have been helping boost funds for Children in Need while creating their own cuddly version of the charity's mascot.

Merry Hill's Build A Bear Workshop held the fundraising event during half-term with £5 from the sale of all toys going straight to the fund.

Last year Build A Bear Workshop contributed £100,000 to Children in Need through the sale of Pudsey Bear, and hope to raise even more this year with the help of Pudsey's new friend, Blush.

Build-A-Bear chief executive Maxine Clark said: "Pudsey's new companion Blush has come on board to

help with fundraising; she likes playing the drums and dancing and comes with magnetic paws which cover her rosy cheeks.

"We are absolutely delighted to be partnered with such a worthy cause like BBC Children in Need again and with the addition of Blush Bear we hope this year supersedes the previous year's campaigns.

Helping

"Giving back to the community and helping children and families is a core value at Build-A-Bear Workshop."

Children visiting the shop had the opportunity to create a mural of their favourite bear.

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Patrols step up around fire-hit school



Fire damage caused to the canopy and wrecked a shed at Amblecote Primary School

POLICE patrols have been stepped up around a Dudley school following an arson attack which caused damage amounting to £7,000, it has emerged.

The attack at Amblecote Primary School, Stourbridge, has been condemned as "dreadful" by headteacher Ann Mason.

The blaze destroyed playground equipment and tore through storage sheds at neighbouring allotments.

Flames damaged a canopy over a playground, burnt through drainpipes leading

off the school building and wrecked a play shed in the school's grounds, in School Drive.

A blaze was also started at nearby Amblecote Allotment Gardens where two sheds were gutted by the fire on the same night late on October 25.

Visibility

Police say they are investigating the two attacks and Dudley Council says it is making repairs to fencing around the allot-

ments to stop youths gaining access again.

Sgt Steve Gordon, of Stourbridge police station, said high-visibility patrols had been increased around the school in the evenings.

Mrs Mason said: "In some ways we were lucky that the fire crews had been at the allotments and seen the fire over at the school at the same time otherwise it could have got inside the school itself."

Two computer hard drives were stolen by thieves in a separate raid on Sunday.

Smoker death rate is Black Country lowest

Lottery boost for women's group

PROJECTS in the Dudley area will be given a welcome boost, as the Big Lottery Fund announced more than £500,000 of cash injections in the region.

They are among 68 projects across the region providing services - from helping children who are about to undergo surgery to organising activities and recreation for disabled people.

The Humaara Project, based at the Lye Community Project, has been handed £10,000 to develop its services to help women. The group helps by getting women access to support services and educational facilities.

Other groups in the Dudley area which have also received cash through the scheme include Bobbington Village Hall, in South Staffordshire, which has received £7,220.

The church council at St John's Church, in Swindon, near Wombourne, received £600.



Humaara Project members from back left, reiki tutor Rubina Janjua, admin trainee Haleema Javid, volunteer Farida Tabassum, creche assistant Raheela Naz, team leader Nazia Shehzad and project manager Maimoona Ramzan

DEATH RATES from smoking are lower in Dudley than in other Black Country boroughs and in England as a whole.

A study by the Association of Public Health Observatories found that Dudley's rate was 203 deaths per 100,000 people, compared with neighbouring Sandwell's 280.

Across the West Midlands as a whole, there was a greater proportion of smoking-related deaths between 2006 and 2008 compared to the average rate of 206 for the whole of England.

The West Midlands also had a higher rate of smoking-related deaths from heart disease, stroke and chronic lung disease than the rest of the country. Only deaths from lung cancer remained similar to the average.

Admissions

Wolverhampton had an average of 239 smoking-related deaths per 100,000 of population and Walsall's figure was 248.

South Staffordshire fared better with 189. Shropshire, Worcestershire and Solihull were also below the England average, but Birmingham and Coventry fared badly.

A spokesman for the West Midlands Public Health Observatory said: "The number of deaths attributable to smoking within the West Midlands does not come as too much of a surprise."

The study also revealed the proportion of hospital admissions due to smoking was significantly worse than average in the West Midlands.

Pensioners gather for tips on safety and good health

A SAFETY event aimed at older people in Dudley attracted more than 100 people.

The free Keep Well, Keep Safe event is held three times a year. It aims to educate and raise older people's awareness about safe and healthy lifestyles.

The recent event held at Redhill School, Stourbridge, consisted of workshops, discussions and presentations, as well as a comedy show performed by the Fizzog Theatre group.

Try honour for rugby legend Cliff says fan

Theatre recruits wanted

A CAMPAIGN has been launched to honour a Black Country rugby legend after he visited his home town.

Cliff Watson, aged 80, of Dudley, who played for rugby league side St Helens, captained Great Britain and moved to Australia. He was voted one of his club's top 17 players in its 120-year history, but fans say he has been "forgotten" in Dudley.

They think that his achievements should be recognised. A Facebook group is being set up and it is hoped hundreds will join.

It has been launched by Deb Brownlee, chairman of the group

raising cash for the regeneration of St John's Church, Kates Hill, where Mr Watson married in 1960.

Mr Watson, who now lives near Sydney, visited the church last month.

Bombed

Now Mrs Brownlee is calling for him to "get the recognition he deserves".

She feels there should be a plaque or display in Dudley Museum & Art Gallery - or even a statue similar to that of Manchester United and England football legend Duncan Edwards right in the town centre.

She said: "Cliff has achieved so much that people aren't even aware of. Dudley has got a lot to be proud of but sometime we don't make the most of it."

Mr Watson grew up in a terraced house in Fisher Street, Dudley, after the family's house in London was bombed in the Second World War.

He became the youngest ever player at Dudley Kingswinford rugby union team at the age of 15, before moving to St Helens two years later, where he was a prop forward and was made captain. In 1970, his side won the Championship Trophy.

THE Brierley Hill base of the National Youth Theatre is running a course next year, and recruitment has started.

The organisation aims to give young people the opportunity to take part in the arts, such as performing in the West End.

The group will be running a free course for young people aged 16 to 24 between January and July at the Black Country Living Museum in Tipton Road, Dudley.

A course offers a qualification equivalent to two GCSEs.

Help for patients is moving closer

Gwen's gang of helpers buy monitors for wards

KINGSWINFORD pensioner Gwen Timmins and her small band of helpers have ordered two new blood pressure monitors for Corbett Hospital.

They have raised £50,000 in seven years to make life more comfortable for hospital patients around the Dudley borough.

Gwen, of Veronica Road, who received the MBE in 2007 for her fundraising efforts, said she wanted to thank visitors to Russells Hall Hospital for buying tombola tickets from the stand she and other volunteers from the Support Group for Pain Relief run in the entrance hall.

"We have just ordered two blood pressure monitors for the day case unit at Corbett Hospital, Stourbridge, costing £2,000," said Gwen. "And that's the proceeds of about two months, which shows how popular our stall is."

Gwen and Tony Smith, from Hale-



sowen, now run the stall between them.

Until recently they also had help from Patricia Morgan and Jan Storey, who have decided to call it a day and retire from fundraising.

At Corbett Hospital, Stourbridge are back, staff nurse Palmynder Mander, staff nurse Helen Bruton, team leader Jennifer Wynn, with members of the Support Group for Pain Relief Unit, Gwen Timmins, seated, and chairman Tony Smith

THREE one-stop shops for people with dementia in Dudley borough have moved a step closer.

Dudley Council has approved a report to develop the Dudley dementia strategy.

The one stop shops will be in the north, south and central parts of the borough and will be for people with dementia and their carers.

They will provide support from a range of professionals recruited from the health, social care and voluntary sector.

The strategy, which is being written jointly by the council, NHS Dudley, and the Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Trusts, will complement the national strategy published in February 2009.

It is estimated that there are more than 3,800 people in Dudley who have dementia, and the figure is set to rise.

Councillor Lesley Faulkner, cabinet member for adult and community services, said: "This is no doubt a debilitating condition and we need to work together with our partners in health and with voluntary groups to ensure we provide the support that is needed."

The centres will include carer support services, specialist dementia care staff and day respite for carers, as well as day opportunities for people with dementia. It is planned that the dementia gateways will be fully operational by spring.

Sounds like history

THE history of Dudley borough will be explored during a series of talks next week. Halesowen Library will host an event on Wednesday, November 17 when Mick Dickens will talk about the sounds of history in the 1940s. The talk, beginning at 2.30pm, is in the Shenstone Theatre.

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Opposition to be given more of say

UNPOPULAR decisions by Dudley Council could face greater challenges in the future.

Currently, decisions by the council cannot be called in for scrutiny because there are too few councillors in opposition to the ruling Conservatives.

A revamp of the council's constitution could see it become easier for members to question a committee's actions.

At a meeting of the cabinet, it was agreed to look at the issue "as a matter of urgency".

Labour leader Councillor David Sparks called for changes to be made ahead of the next full council meeting on November 29.

He said: "We haven't got any kind of opposition function that is meaningful."

There are currently 26 Labour members, one Liberal Democrat, one UKIP and 44 Conservatives.

Councillors from at least two parties must vote for a decision to be called in for scrutiny by a select committee, but Labour councillors argue this is often not possible.

Tragedy of crash man

A MAN died from brain injuries he suffered five years earlier in a car crash in the Black Country, an inquest heard.

Paul Bateman, aged 42, had suffered severe brain damage when his car skidded on black ice in Vicarage Road, Ambleside. He was left paralysed and "almost completely brain dead", his brother Perry told the inquest at Dudley Coroners Court.

Mr Bateman, who had a 13-year-old son, was a resident at Himley Mill Nursing Home, School Road, Himley, when he died on August 26.

On the evening of December 19, 2005, he lost control of his Vauxhall Vectra, hitting a wall, fence and tree.

His brother said: "He basically died that night and was brought back to life by staff at the hospital."

Black Country coroner Robin Balmain recorded a verdict of natural causes at last week's hearing.

Fisher king of the waterways



Graham Fisher MBE with an award for work with Dudley Festival of Water and Light
A BLACK Country ambassador has been awarded for his efforts as The Dudley Water and Light Festival sails through another successful year.

Waterways enthusiast Graham Fisher MBE, aged 56, of High Ward Close, Kingswinford, who has been working on the festival for six years, was recognised for his dedication and hard work at Brierley Hill.

Celebrating its 12th year the team gathered at the Copthorne Hotel, after the fireworks display, where the Mayor of Dudley, Councillor Peter Miller, presented Graham with an engraved glass plaque.

Graham, who is also a representative for

the glass museum, said: "The award was deeply thoughtful, I was absolutely gob smacked and utterly astonished when I was handed this wonderful prize."

"I am very proud to be honoured with this award and it is wonderful to know that there are so many people that appreciate my efforts."

Graham, a professional writer and chairman of the Bridge Radio Group, organises the boats every year for the festivals water display finale. Finding boats and skippers from all over the country, Graham pulls the boats together, before commenting alongside show sponsors, Heart FM.

M5 section top of jams league

A SECTION of the M5 heading towards the M6 at Birmingham is the worst UK traffic bottleneck, according to a new congestion index.

The Birmingham-bound section of the M5 was found to be jammed 63 hours a week in 2009/10, with an average speed below 15mph when congested.

The index by traffic information company INRIX said that if you happened to be driving on this stretch on a Friday from 5pm to 6pm you could conceivably ride your bike faster than your car, with an average speed of only 8mph.

The bottleneck findings will come as no surprise to West Midlands motorists

who have been facing long running traffic problems as work to tackle congestion is carried out on the M6.

It is part of the ongoing work to deliver the managed motorways scheme, which will open up the hard shoulder between junctions 8 for the M5 and 10A at Wolverhampton.

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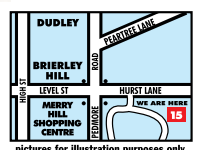
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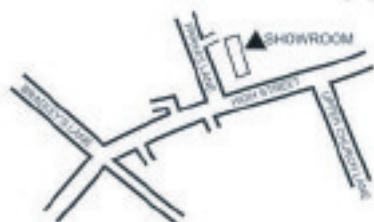
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the pulse



Check out the latest CDs – page 28

And whatever next Miss Goldfrapp?

OVER 10 years and five albums the genre-mashing Goldfrapp, the duo featuring corkscrew-haired singer Alison Goldfrapp and bearded muso Will Gregory, have gone from the icy operatic mood music of Mercury Prize-nominated debut *Felt Mountain* to the joyous disco pop of this year's *Head First* album.

Coming to Birmingham's O2 Academy on Sunday (14) with their full band as part of a nine-date UK tour, fans will be looking for hints at the next genre to be revamped by Goldfrapp or the latest image to be adopted by the 44-year-old chameleon

songstress from Hampshire. In the past she has performed dressed as a futuristic air hostess, or in a flowing gown, or ABBA style jump suit, demonstrating a David Bowie-like flair for reinvention.

Her retro leaning blend of disco and glam rock, with hints of classic FM rock on the new album, has yielded a host of hit singles, including *Ooh La La*, *Number One*, *Ride A White Horse*, *Caravan Girl*, *Rocket* and *Alive*. Recently the duo have been working with A-list diva Christina Aguilera.

Fans will be going into the Birmingham venue eagerly anticipating what the glamorous and unpredictable Miss Goldfrapp will do next.

Model Momsen Taylor made to light up Wulfrun



RIISING American rock stars The Pretty Reckless, fronted by teenage movie actress and model Taylor Momsen, make their first visit to the Black Country for a gig at the Wulfrun Hall in Wolverhampton on Wednesday, December 15.

In 2000, the now 17-year-old, Momsen played little Cindy Lou Hoo opposite Jim Carrey as The Grinch and nearly pipped Miley Cyrus to become Disney's Hannah Montana. However, going to a White Stripes gig changed her musical taste and she now

cites Led Zeppelin, Nirvana and Oasis as her major musical influences, she certainly has a rawer rock voice than her Disney pop girl contemporaries.

She was recently in cult TV show *Gossip Girl* and Taylor was also the face of

fashion chain New Look for their spring/summer 2010 collection.

She and her New York based band got an enthusiastic welcome at the V Festival in August, the time their debut album *Light Me Up* was released.



Fans will be heading for Birmingham eagerly anticipating what the glamorous and unpredictable Miss Goldfrapp will do next

YOUR EIGHT-PAGE ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE AND WEEK'S TV-VIEWING

Cinema preview on page 28

Check out theatre line-up – page 23

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		-Premier-	7.50	10.20	(12.30)	
Due Date		11.40	2.10	4.40	7.10	9.45 (12.05) 15
		-Premier-	12.10	2.40	5.10	7.40 10.15 (12.25)
Let Me In		11.10	1.55	4.35	7.25	10.05 (12.35) 15
Burke and Hare		11.55	2.35	5.10	7.25	9.40 (11.55) 15
Saw 3D			3.30	7.45	10.05	(12.15) 18
Alpha and Omega 3-D					11.00	1.15 U
Red		-Premier-	11.25	2.05	4.45	7.20 9.55 (12.20) 12A
Paranormal Activity 2		12.05	2.40	5.05	7.50	10.10 (12.25) 15
Despicable Me 3D		-Premier-	11.30	2.00	4.30	U
Despicable Me		12.00	2.30	5.00	7.30	9.45 (12.00) U
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Four couples, three bedrooms one row – and that illicit kiss

THEATRE

REAL-LIFE husband and wife team Juliet Mills and Maxwell Caulfield will star in Peter Hall's critically-acclaimed production of *Bedroom Farce*, one of Alan Ayckbourn's most popular comedies, at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre from Tuesday to Saturday following its recent run in London's West End.

Juliet Mills' prolific career highlights include *Wild at Heart*, *Oh! What a Lovely War*, *The Elephant Man* and *Billy Wilder's Avant!* for which she was nominated for a Golden Globe for Best Actress.

Her Hollywood husband Maxwell Caulfield is best known for his starring roles in *Dynasty*, *The Colbys* and *Grease 2*. Most recently Caulfield played smooth-talking millionaire Mark Wyld in *Emmerdale*, whose dramatic demise created one of the biggest soap storylines of last year.

The cast also features Bruce Montague, a renowned TV and theatre actor whose credits include playing Leonard in *Carla Lane's* sit com *Butterflies*; Clare Wilkie, a soap regular who played Sandra Di Marco in *EastEnders*; Oliver Boot, a prolific theatre actor whose TV

credits include *Holby City*, *Two Pints of Lager* and a *Packet of Crisps* and *Hotel Babylon*; Julia Mallam and Ayden Callaghan who are best known for their roles as Dawn Woods and Miles De Souza in *Emmerdale*.

The action focuses on four couples in three bedrooms, with two celebrations, one blazing row and an illicit kiss (or two). Musical sci-fi spoof *Return To The Forbidden Planet* is presented by Bilston Operatic Company at the Grand until Saturday.

Scaramouche Jones is back by popular demand at Wolverhampton's Arena Theatre, where a sold-out production got standing ovations two years ago. An eloquent blend of drama, comedy and brutality, it follows Jones' globe-trotting odyssey as the son of a prostitute in the West Indies, via Africa and Venice to a concentration camp in Nazi-occupied Poland and then England 1999. It is staged tonight (Thurs).

Canteen

Mig Theatre bring *Kiss Me Like You Mean It*, a poignant and controversial play by Torchwood and Doctor Who writer Chris Chibnall, which is set during a party in a Manchester terraced house, at the Arena tomorrow (Fri). It is described as not suitable for children.

Penny Dreadful present *The Missionary's Position*, a comedy about a 1930s comedian turned clergyman who got too close to the prostitutes he was trying to 'save', on Tuesday.

The Dinner Lady Man, staged by Something And Nothing at the Arena on Wednesday (7), tells of a middle-aged former builder who causes consternation when he joins the all-female staff at a school canteen. Gerald Logan performs Shakespeare's narrative poem *The Rape of Lucrece*, about the impact of the terrible crime on victim and perpetrator, at the Arena on Thursday (18).

Andrew Lloyd Webber and Don Black's 1981 song cycle *Tell Me On A Sunday*,

originally a star vehicle for Marti Webb, has been remodeled for Liverpoolian singer and actress Claire Sweeney. The short show, it lasts just over an hour, is about an English woman searching for love in America. It is staged for one night only at Birmingham's Alexandra Theatre on Tuesday.

It is a week of one-nighters at the Alex including tomorrow (Fri) *Motown on Tour*, a tribute to the legendary soul label; Sunday, Young Gifted & Phat, Blue Mountain's play is a comedy drama set at a Jamaican beauty pageant for the larger lady.

Welsh National Opera present Mozart's *The Magic Flute* at Birmingham Hippodrome tonight (Thurs) and on Saturday. Dominic Cooke's fantastical two hour and 50 minutes production features fabulous beasts. WNO tomorrow (Fri) present a new production of Beethoven's *Fidelio*. Giuseppe Frigeni's powerful prison-set production will be

sung in German with English surtitles.

The Hippodrome will then go dark to prepare for festive treat, Birmingham Royal Ballet's *Cinderella*, which opens on November 24. BRB Director David Bintley's new production of the classic fairy tale, with music by Prokofiev, marks the company's 20th anniversary year based in Birmingham.

Birmingham Stage Company bring Phillip Pullman's children's fantasy *The Firework Maker's Daughter* to the stage at Birmingham Old Rep, in Station Street, until November 28. Tinker's Farm Opera stage a new version of *The Merry Widow* at The Crescent Theatre in Birmingham nightly to Saturday.

Two hard-hitting plays are presented at Birmingham Repertory Theatre until Saturday. In the main house *The Big Fish* tells of a New York fireman who joins the IRA; whilst *The Royal Court's* controversial new play *The Author* is a savage satire on modern theatre.



Tell Me On A Sunday at the Alex stars Liverpoolian singer and actress Claire Sweeney

DIARY DATE

Urban sounds to give The Public a positive vibe

LIVEBOX returns to The Public in West Bromwich on Sunday with a performance by American emcee Why G. The regular performance arts event, run by Nu Century Arts, embraces live music, poetry, hip hop and dance, offering both emerging and established artists the opportunity to develop and perform their work.

New Yorker Why G (Yogi

Guyadin) produces his own original material with a positive vibe. Nu Century Arts host a number of successful events across the West Midlands, providing a platform for established and emerging artists from the African Caribbean community to become involved in the creative industry. Linda Saunders, Managing Director of The Public said: "We're delighted that Nu Century Arts will be bringing their successful

LiveBox event to The Public for a third time. Urban music is a hugely popular genre in Sandwell so we expect the night to be a great success." Doors open at 7pm and the show begins 7.30pm. Tickets are £5, available from The Public box office on (0121) 533 7161. For more information about all events at The Public visit the website at www.thepublic.com or call the box office.



American emcee Why G (Yogi Guyadin)



Juliet Mills is to star in *Bedroom Farce* at the Grand

plastic pantomime

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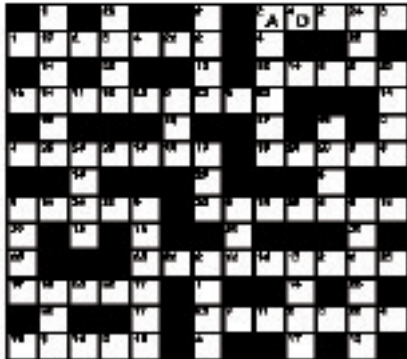
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Brain Gym

No.090

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given information to solve the grid in every row.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

I	X	G	D	J	P	N	T	F	A	R	Y	B
S	Z	E	N	C	Q	W	U	H	K	L		



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Double Crossword

Choose a hint guide on page 11 and solve both the starting grid.

Cryptic Clues:

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Quick Ones:

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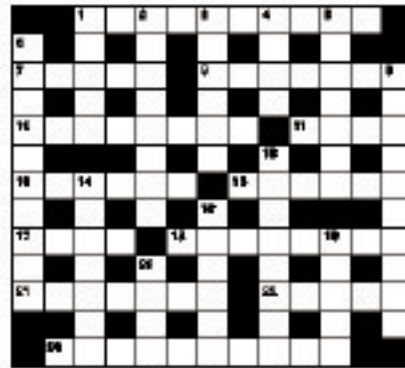
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LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:
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Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that each row, each column, each 3x3 box contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

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Circlegam

Replace the question mark with a letter so that the letters in each circle can be rearranged to form words with a common theme. What are the three words and the letter represented by the question mark?



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:
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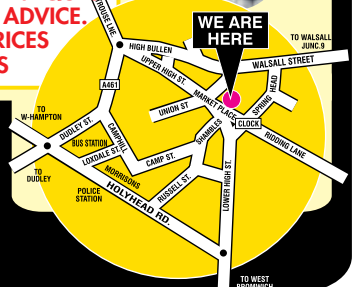
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the pulse



Jarrod (Eric Balfour) and Elaine (Scottie Thompson) make a run for it

Fight for survival in alien onslaught

CINEMA

AFTER a late night party, a group of friends in Los Angeles are awakened in the dead of the night by an eerie light beaming through the window.

Like moths to a flame, the light source is drawing people outside before they suddenly vanish into thin air. That's the set up for apocalyptic new science fiction thriller Skyline, which opens at cinemas tomorrow (Fri), a special effects bonanza blending elements of Cloverfield, The Mist, War of the Worlds, Independence Day and Close Encounters.

The friends soon find themselves in a fight for survival as the world unravels around them in a terrifying alien onslaught.

Eric Balfour (from 24) stars alongside David Zayas (Dexter), with Donald Faison (Scrubs), Brittany Daniel (Sweet Valley High) and Neil Hopkins (Lost). Skyline is directed by brothers Colin Strause and Greg Strause, written by Liam O'Donnell and Joshua Cordes.



In the film strange lights descend on the city of Los Angeles

DISNEY SPECIAL

Still magic after all these years

Disney On Ice 100 Years of Magic. NIA

It is 108 years since Walt Disney was born and next week it will be 72 years since Mickey Mouse made his movie debut... so I can only assume that the 100 Years of Magic is part of a decade-long celebration of the studio's movie magic. Whatever the theme, the latest Disney ice spectacular does live up to the hyperbole - it is a visual treat full of colourful costumed characters and featuring thrilling skating.

Mickey and Minnie Mouse, with some help from the accident-prone Goofy, introduce a cavalcade of favourite Disney songs and moments. It begins in eye-catching style with the Genie from Aladdin duplicating himself into a fast skating chorus line of 20 blue genies. Then a Finding Nemo segment brings back some of the surreal fish costumes, including a menacingly toothy Bruce the Shark, that delighted Disney ice show regulars last year.

The castle set came into its own for a Beauty and the Beast excerpt which became a tribute to the Disney princesses as Belle and her Prince were joined on the ice by Cinderella and Prince Charming, Princess Jasmine and Aladdin, Ariel and Prince Eric, Pocahontas and John Smith, and finally Snow White and her Prince for a series of superbly danced duets.

A big cheer greeted the arrival of Woody, Jessie and Buzz Lightyear, joined by the toy soldiers of Toy Story before the first half ended in dazzling style with a tribute to a favourite Disney theme parks institution It's A Small World.

The anarchic Stitch sadly made an all-too-brief appearance after the interval but then the audience were treated to a tribute to old school classic Pinocchio, probably the most magical portion of the show when Jiminy Cricket croons When You Wish Upon A Star as the fairy descends from her star to turn the puppet into an 'almost real' boy. After being led astray Pinocchio made amends by rescuing his father from the belly of the giant whale Monstro.

The whale was good but the dragon was better in the fast-paced potted version of Mulan, in which snow fell onto the rink as Mulan's Chinese troops battled the Huns. The Incredibles showed their super powers before the most popular part of the show, The Lion King with Hankuma Matata and the gorgeously costumed Simba and Nala dancing to Can You Feel The Love Tonight?

You could certainly feel the love for the whole Disney experience as the huge cast returned for a big firework finale. Disney On Ice continues to celebrate the magic at the NIA to Sunday, November 14. LEON BURAKOWSKI



Mickey and Minnie Mouse introduced a cavalcade of favourite Disney moments

CD REVIEWS

Seasons Of My Soul: Rumer

What a very special voice. Rumer (seen right) has been compared to Karen Carpenter and Laura Nyro and her soft, yet sturdy, tones deserve to be mentioned in such legendary company.

Slow, the third and finest song on this debut album, is the perfect showcase. It is gorgeous and will be a huge hit. This is a warm album that feels as though it has been written from experience rather than by committee. It is an engaging set of songs from the 31-year-old singer/songwriter (real name Sarah Joyce, her stage name is a tribute to children's author Rumer Godden).

Whilst none quite match the wonderful Slow, which featured on an EP which introduced this singer who comes from Pakistan by way of the New Forest, they deserve time to work their way under the skin - particularly the laid-back dreamy Come To Me High, the spine-tingling On My Way Home and the Norah Jones-ish Aretha.

Rumer is to appear in concert at Birmingham's Glee Club on December 13. Given the release of this album, her appearances with Jools Holland and on Elton John's Electric Prom... it's likely to be the hottest ticket in town this festive season.



by Leon Burakowski

The Wanted: The Wanted

Watch out JLS this five-piece (Jay, Nathan, Tom, Siva and Max) are impressive new kids on the block. The Wanted's debut album opens with a cracking pop song, All Time Low, which bounces off the album and into your brain, where it will stay.

Heart Vacancy is more of a standard ballad with its harmonies and boys together chorus and High and Low is almost choral. However, it remains apparent that these lads are a million miles away from the 'stand-up-for-the-key-change' school of dewy-eyed balladry.

The Wanted live up to their promise to bring sexy back to boy bandism with come on song Let's Get Ugly which cheekily uses the famous refrain from Ennio Morricone's western movie theme The Good The Bad and The Ugly. Say It On The Radio is a rocker whilst Golden is an interestingly strange almost-indie rock song. The emphasis is back on the dancefloor for Weakness before the double salvo of potential hits, Behind Bars and Made. A lot of people are going to want The Wanted.

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COMPETITION

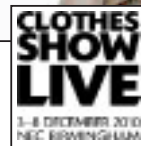
Show time so get set to party

CLOTHES Show Live 2010 is back to host the hottest and most stylish fashion and beauty event of the year! The show returns to Birmingham's NEC, from December 3-8 bringing together hundreds of your favourite fashion and beauty brands and boutiques; non-stop catwalk shows and the UK's hottest celebrities. It's the ultimate shopping destination this party season. And what's more, you could be going for free. Clothes Show Live is teaming up with the Chronicle to give 10 readers the chance to win a pair of tickets.

Inspirational

Whether you're looking for the ideal girls' day out, inspiration for the Christmas party season or a chance to see the impressive dance and catwalk shows, Clothes Show Live has it all.

This year's 45-minute Fashion Theatre performance with 40 models and dancers will set the party season off in true style - packed with 250 fabulous outfits and



**YOUR
CHANCE
TO WIN**

To stand a chance of winning win a pair of tickets simply answer this question.

What is the name of the makeover wizard?

Send your answers to Clothes Show Competition, Chronicle series (editorial), 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES. Closing date: Thursday, November 18. Usual rules apply. Editor's decision is final.

For more show details go to clotheshowlive.com Tickets are available online at clotheshowlive.com or call 0844 581 1256.

inspirational hair and make-up looks. There is no other show quite like it.

New to this year's show is the 'Skitch' zone, where you can watch presentations and demonstrations, learn new techniques, browse through beautiful fabrics and gain insight into everything related to sewing, knitting, needlework, stitching and embroidery.

Customisation is back and Skitch is the place for every lady to tailor her individual fashion needs!

Running alongside Clothes Show Live is the exciting new dance experience - The Dance Show. Pick up advice, take part in classes and get your groove on at what is set to be the most spectacular dance event of the year.

From Friday (3) - Sunday (5) only, make-over wizard Gok Wan will be presenting in



Clothes Show Live's Fashion Theatre before 40 hot male and female models take to the stage for a high octane catwalk showcase.

Performing in the Fashion Theatre across the six days will be the UK's hottest new boy band Injustice.

Ready to take the charts by storm, Injustice will perform to an 180,000 strong audience before the catwalk extravaganza begins.

Combining fashion, dance and music, the Fashion Theatre will come alive as the lads perform a single from their ambitious debut album, World's Most Wanted.

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Tomato Soup or
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Served with stuffing, roast and boiled potatoes, parsnip, sprouts, sweet cabbage, carrots, gravy and cranberry sauce.

Christmas Pudding

With custard and brandy sauce
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Cream Coffee or
Coffee and Mince Pies

Indian

Popadoms

Choice of any Starter
from Menu

Choice of any Main
Course from Menu

Christmas Pudding
With custard and brandy sauce
or Vanilla Ice Cream

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Sundays

4 Course Set Meal

Please ask inside for details

• Papadom • Any Starter

• Any Main Course

• Any Rice or Nan

(£2 extra for king prawns and lobster dishes)

Coffee or Vanilla Ice Cream

Adult £8.95 Children £3.50

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Patients rewarded with trip down memory lane

THE QUEEN Elizabeth Hospital is celebrating 72 years of caring for the people of the Midlands as the last of its patients prepares to move out.

Birmingham's Queen Elizabeth and Selly Oak hospitals are being closed down, with patients being transferred to the new £545 million super-hospital, also called the Queen Elizabeth, which has been built on the original site in Edgbaston.

Plans for a hospital in Britain's second city were first mooted by Alderman William Cadbury in 1922, with £1 million set aside for the project.

A financial crisis put it on hold, but in 1930 an appeal to build a hospital with 740 beds was launched.

In 1938 the Duke of Gloucester performed the opening ceremony, with King George VI and Queen Elizabeth visiting the following year.

In addition to the hospital itself, a medical school and a nurses home were created, with

the final cost of the project £1,029,057, funded through donations.

The new Queen Elizabeth is the first new acute hospital in the city since the original QE.

The 1,213-bed super-hospital received its first patients on June 16 this year when critical care, in-patient wards, imaging and the burns unit were transferred up the hill from Selly Oak Hospital in Raddelbarn Road.

Celebrating

It took 20 ambulances and 400 removal men to deliver 420 patients and thousands of pieces of equipment to the new hospital off Vincent Drive.

The next move gets under way in the week beginning November 15, with patients being transferred from the old hospital to the new buildings.

To mark the historic occasion, hospital bosses are holding a special event, entitled Clocking Out: Celebrating Care at the QE - 1938-2010. It is inviting staff and members



Nurses observing treatment as part of their training



Patients undergoing physiotherapy are put through their paces

of the public to step back in time to find out more about the history of the hospital and share memories.

It will include displays of photographs from the hospital archives. Visitors are being

invited to sign a "memory wall" and leave a message in a video booth as well as sharing their experience of the hospital with other visitors.

Once the final patients have moved, some

admin functions will remain at the old QE, with the rest of the buildings closing.

Chief executive Julie Moore said: "The old Queen Elizabeth has saved or changed hundreds of thousands of lives over the years."

Couple enjoy golden day

A BLIND date led to 50 years of marriage for Dudley councillor Ken Finch and his wife Mary.

The couple celebrated their anniversary with friends and family and will be enjoying a cruise next year.

Mr Finch, a Castle and Priory ward representative, said he got to know Mary through a friend - and it was love at first sight.

Mr Finch, aged 75, said: "There was no doubt I knew she was the one for me."

They courted for two years before Mr Finch proposed as they were returning from an evening at the Miners Welfare Club, Lower Gornal.

Wolves

Mary said Yes immediately and the couple wed at St James's Church, Lower Gornal.

Lifelong Wolves fan Mr Finch was born in Oakleywell Street, Dudley, and later lived on the Wrens Nest estate.

For 27 years he worked at Smethwick Drop Forgings in Rolfe Street, while his wife worked as a Dudley Social Services home help.

Mr Finch is chairman of Gornal branch of the Royal British Legion and chairman of the Gornal Windmill Trust, a project to convert an old windmill into a community facility.

He believes understanding each other and a close-knit family were the secret of their success.

Mrs Finch, 72, is a member of the



Mary and Ken Finch, who are celebrating their golden wedding anniversary

Inset: The happy couple on their wedding day

Darby and Joan Club, Lower Gornal. The couple have a son Gary, aged 49, a lecturer at Dudley College, and a daughter, Denise Shuker, 42, a secretary for Banks's brewery.

They have a granddaughter Hannah Finch, 21, at the University of Birmingham and grandsons Adam and Elliot Finch, 10 and 13.

Battle renewed as phone mast giant back with fresh bid

A FRESH campaign has been launched against plans for a phone mast which have been submitted for a second time in Stourbridge.

Residents claim the 49ft mast would be a blot on the landscape and could cause health risks.

The proposals for the structure on land near Kingsway and Kent Road, Wollaston, were rejected by Dudley Council last summer, but phones giant Telefonica O2 UK has now appealed against the decision to the Planning Inspectorate in Bristol.

A new petition is being drawn up, after 575 people signed the last one, and more than 100 people have added their names.

Campaigners say they are "determined" to defeat the scheme, fearing health risks associated with the radio waves emitted from the mast.

O2 denies the claim and says there is no medical evidence to back it up.

A retired telecommunications engineer, 80-year-old John Horton, of York Crescent, Wollaston, said: "This phone mast would be within 150ft of St James' Primary School and it is not right that they should have this built so near to the children. We are determined to beat this."

"I certainly will not let it rest and neither will the other residents."

Previous

O2 spokesman Jim Stevenson said: "We thought the previous plans were very good and we spent a lot of time designing them. I am very confident they will go through this time."

Mr Stevenson said O2 had made about 50 appeals against planning permission refusal for phone masts in recent years and had been successful in about 70 per cent of cases.

The application was refused planning permission by Dudley Council on June 21.

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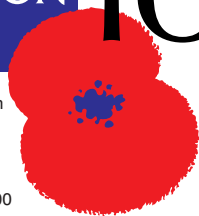
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we shall not
sleep, though
poppies grow in
Flanders fields

Colonel John McCrae



The Saturdays launch Poppy Appeal 2010

28 October 2010

The Royal British Legion's 90th Poppy Appeal has been launched today, Thursday 28 October, highlighting its support for the injured, wounded and bereaved of the British Armed Forces serving in Afghanistan.

Under the motto, "Put on a poppy", the national Poppy Appeal was launched at Colchester Garrison with a concert from chart-topping pop sensations The Saturdays for families and personnel of 16 Air Assault Brigade, now on combat operations in Afghanistan.

The 2010 Appeal has a fundraising target of £36m, up from the record £35m raised in 2009. "Despite the current economic times, we trust the great British public will show their support for those who have sacrificed on behalf of their country," said the Legion's Director of National Events and Fundraising Russell Thompson. "We call on the nation to give generously and to wear their poppies with pride."

Jump 4 Heroes, The Royal British Legion's Extreme Human Flight Team, provided a spectacular display of wingsuit flight and precision guidance under red and white poppy canopies. Team Captain Major Alastair Macartney said: "As serving soldiers, we know all too

well how important the Poppy Appeal is for the support of today's Armed Forces and we are very proud to be a part of it." Emma-Jayne Webster, the fiancée of a young soldier who was killed in Afghanistan last year, and Gunner Mark Stonelake, a soldier who lost a leg fighting in Afghanistan, also attended the launch. Both feature on this year's Poppy Appeal posters at more than 6,000 locations across the UK and on national television ads. Colchester Garrison is future home to one of four Personnel Recovery Centres that The Royal British Legion will be operating in partnership with the British Army. The Legion will also build, equip and operate the Battle Back Challenge Centre for adventure training and adaptive sports. Both projects will cost the Legion at least £25m, "and we are confident the British public will support this important work enough to provide us the means to provide for our injured heroes," said Mr Russell. With the assistance of British Forces Broadcasting, the Poppy Appeal launch also arranged for video messages from soldiers serving with 16 Air Assault Brigade to be relayed to some 800 family members watching from inside the Cpl Budd VC Gymnasium at Colchester Garrison in Essex.

Essex-born member of The Saturdays, Frankie Sandford said: "It's great to be back in Essex performing for the families living at Colchester Garrison. I really admire and respect our Armed Forces and their families, I think what they do is incredible."

Rochelle Wiseman, another Essex-born member of the group, added: "It's humbling to be asked to help launch this year's Poppy Appeal. We will do anything we can do to support the Poppy Appeal and our brave Armed Forces and their families."

"The Royal British Legion is the leading UK charity providing direct, practical support to the British Armed Forces heroes and their families," said Legion National President, Lieutenant General Sir John Kiszely KCB MC. "The past nine years of conflict have increased the need for our help, both today and for years to come."

The Legion has provided immediate financial help to more than 10,000 Service personnel who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan and their families. "We represent one-third of all the appeals for higher compensation payments for injuries suffered in Afghanistan," Lt Gen Sir John Kiszely added. "And our campaigns have led to increased compensation awards which have placed an extra £12 million in the pockets of the most seriously injured."

The Legion currently spends more than a £1.4 million a week or over £200,000 a day in its work helping 160,000 members of the Armed Forces Family each year. Its help is available to all those in the Armed Forces, all who have served in the past, and their dependents.

There are many ways to support The Poppy Appeal either individually or as a company. And now you can show your support digitally - by email, on your mobile and on Facebook.

Shop at The Poppy Shop

Buy official Royal British Legion merchandise online at our new Poppy Shop. Visit www.poppysshop.org.uk now!

Buy a poppy online We have lapel poppies, little remembrance crosses, silk poppies etc available online for the cost of a donation plus postage and packaging.

Donate via your mobile Text the word POPPY to 70090 - to make a donation to The Royal British Legion.

(Texts cost £5.00 plus your standard network message charge.) At least £4.00* goes directly to the Legion.

* Service provided by The Royal British Legion. Customer Service number is 0844 991 0078. By using this service you agree that we may contact you for future campaigns, unless you send STOP to 70090.

Download music and support the Poppy Appeal

The Royal British Legion is releasing its own single "Two Minute Silence" on 7 November. Help us to reach No 1 by Remembrance Sunday by ordering your copy now.

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Taylors estate agent is marketing the sale of this modern, David Payne home in Quarry Bank. Offers in the region of £249,950

Modern home has secluded garden

NUMBER 7 Coppice Rise in Quarry Bank is situated at the head of a cul-de-sac in an established residential location.

The home built by David Payne is a modern four-bedroom detached family house and has been considerably improved and updated by the present owners.

It comes highly recommended for viewing by the agent Taylors who are inviting offers in the region of £249,950.

Through the entrance hall with laminate flooring, stairs lead to the first floor and a guest WC.

On the ground floor there is a living room which measures 16ft 3in x 15ft 11in, which has a contemporary electric fire, television and telephone points, coving, two ceiling roses, laminate style flooring, radiator, leaded bow window to the front and an archway to the dining room, which measures 9ft 10in x 9ft 7in.

This room has uPVC double-glazed French doors leading to a spacious conservatory with a fan light, laminate style flooring, radiator and French doors to the rear garden.

Also on the ground floor is a dining kitchen measuring 13ft 11in x 12ft and including a range of base and eye level units with roll-edge worksurfaces and complementary lighting, one-and-a-half bowl stainless steel sink and drainage unit with mixer tap.

Integrated

There is also an integrated gas hob, electric oven with extractor, integrated dishwasher, washing machine and tumble dryer.

Once upstairs, the landing has access to the roof space and doors lead to the four bedrooms and family bathroom.

The master bedroom measures 13ft 9in x 13ft 3in and has a coved ceiling, range of fitted wardrobes, leaded window and door to an en suite with walk-in shower, low-flush WC, pedestal wash basin, radiator and window to the side.

All the other three bedrooms feature a range of fitted wardrobes, coved ceiling and dado rail.

In the family bathroom there's a white suite comprising a panel bath, low-flush WC, pedestal wash basin, part-tiled walls, radiator, coving and obscured leaded window to the side.

Once outside, the house stands behind a block-paved driveway which provides off street parking for several vehicles. To the side is a car port which in turn leads to a garage which measures 17ft 10in x 8ft 2in.

There is also a rear garden which is secluded and mainly laid to lawn with terraced borders, a range of trees, shrubs and plants, paved patio area, cold water tap, garden shed and gated side access.

For further information visit the website at www.taylors-estateagents.co.uk or call 01384 265265 to arrange a viewing.



The spacious conservatory provides views of the enclosed rear garden and patio



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Versatile detached with four bedrooms

NUMBER 37 Kirkstone Way is located in the popular Lakeside development in Dudley.

Offers of £234,950 are invited for the house which has uPVC double-glazed windows and gas central heating.

The versatile home has spacious accommodation and the agent Taylors, strongly advises viewing to fully appreciate the residence.

Upon entering the main entrance hall, access is provided to the ground floor accommodation. Stairs lead to the first floor, there is an understairs storage cupboard, guest WC and doors to the lounge.

Measuring 15ft 9in x 11ft 5in, the lounge includes a flame-effect gas fire with brick fireplace, television point, two radiators,

coving, bow window to the front, and uPVC double-glazed French doors lead to the rear garden.

Adjacent to here is the dining room which has dimensions of 9ft 6in x 9ft 7in and includes a serving hatch from the kitchen and window to the rear.

Fitted with a range of wall and floor cupboards is the kitchen which measures 17ft x 8ft 11in.

Rolled-edge work surfaces incorporate a one-and-a-half bowl stainless steel sink and drainage unit with mixer tap and integrated appliances including a gas hob with extractor and electric oven. There is also plumbing for a washing machine and dishwasher.

Once upstairs, the first floor landing has access to the roof space, an airing cupboard housing central heating boiler, radiator, window to the front, and doors leading to the four bedrooms. The master bedroom

measures 11ft 7in x 11ft 4in and includes fitted wardrobes, a radiator and window to the rear.

The other bedrooms all include a television point, radiator and uPVC double-glazed windows.

In the bathroom, which measures 7ft 5in x 7ft, there's a white suite comprising a white suite with panel bath, walk-in shower cubicle, low-flush WC and pedestal wash basin.

Outside, the grounds of the house are made up of gardens to the front and rear.

There is a block-paved driveway leading to a garage and lawn area to the front while the rear is mainly laid to lawn with enclosed fencing, borders, a paved patio and gated side access.

For further information visit the website at www.taylors-estateagents.co.uk or call 01384 265265.

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KINGSWINFORD
2 ASH CRESCENT **£700 pcm**

Deceptively spacious end semi detached house ■ lounge, separate dining room, modern fitted kitchen ■ four good size bedrooms ■ master with en-suite plus family bathroom, ■ large rear garden, substantial gravel driveway, c/h, d/g



PENSNETT, SHERWOOD
BROAD STREET **£600 pcm**

Recently modernised detached house ■ rear lounge, g/wc, kitchen with freestanding appliances ■ three bedrooms ■ bathroom with walk in shower ■ tiered garden, c/h, d/g, private parking.



KINGSWINFORD
91C KINGSLEY ROAD **£595 pcm**

Traditional semi-detached house ■ through lounge/dining room, new fitted kitchen ■ three bedrooms ■ bathroom with new fitted suite ■ driveway, car port, d/g, c/h.



MERRY HILL
37 COLUMBUS AVENUE **£550 pcm**

Modern mid town house ■ lounge, dining room, g/wc, ■ kitchen with integrated appliances ■ three bedrooms, master with en-suite, main bathroom ■ one designated parking space, c/h, d/g, alarm.



STOURBRIDGE
75 TREFOIL GARDENS **£550 pcm**

Modern ground floor apartment ■ spacious lounge, fitted kitchen with integrated appliances ■ two bedrooms with fitted wardrobes ■ main bathroom and ensuite ■ one allocated parking space, d/g, c/h.



DUDLEY
9 PARSONS STREET
114 METROPOLITAN LOFTS **£475 pcm**

Exclusive first floor apartment in a popular development ■ lounge area, modern fitted kitchen ■ two bedrooms, master mezzanine, shower room, ■ secure off road parking, d/g, electric heating.



KINGSWINFORD
95 LAXTON CLOSE **£460 pcm**

Coveniently positioned first floor flat ■ entrance hall, spacious lounge, modern kitchen ■ two bedrooms with storage, third bedroom/study ■ bathroom with shower ■ garage, ample parking, electric heating, d/g



BRIERLEY HILL
99 FOXDALE DRIVE **£425 pcm**

Modern end mews house ■ lounge with gas fire, kitchen with freestanding cooker ■ two bedrooms, bathroom with shower ■ one designated parking space, c/h, s/g.



COSELEY,
47 SANGWIN ROAD **£395 pcm**

Semi-detached house recently decorated throughout ■ entrance lobby, g/wc, lounge, fitted kitchen ■ two bedrooms, cupboards to master bedroom ■ front and rear gardens, drive to frontage, c/h, d/g



SEDGLEY
41 TIPTON ROAD **£395 pcm**

First floor flat ■ lobby, lounge, kitchen with plumbing for washing machine ■ two bedrooms, bathroom with fitted suite including shower ■ garage and communal parking area ■ shared rear garden, d/g, duct heating

TOWN & COUNTRY

PROPERTY SERVICES

MOUNT PLEASANT, KINGSWINFORD



£600PCM

A well presented detached bungalow in a popular residential location. Accommodation comprises: Reception Hall, Extended Lounge with Dining Room, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Refitted Bathroom and Garage. Unfurnished. CHILDREN: Yes PETS: May DSS: No. SMOKERS: No.

THE RIDGEWAY, SEDGLEY



£575PCM

A Spacious Three Bedroom Mid Town House in a popular residential location, close to local amenities. Accommodation comprises: Entrance Hall, Dining Room, Kitchen, Rear Lobby, Utility, downstairs WC, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with separate WC and lawned garden. Parking is available on a block-paved drive. CHILDREN: Yes PETS: No SMOKERS: No DSS: No.

THE QUARTER, CLARENCE STREET, UPPER GORNAL



£525PCM

An Extremely well presented two bedroom terrace property situated in a popular residential location. The accommodation comprises of lounge, kitchen, two bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from gas central heating and double glazing. Unfurnished. PETS: NO CHILDREN: YES DSS: NO SMOKERS: NO.

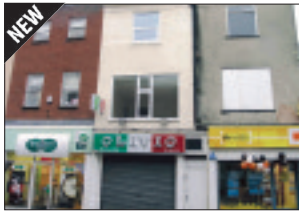
ALLSOP CLOSE, ROWLEY REGIS



£495PCM

A very well presented two bedroom starter home in a popular residential location. Accommodation comprises: Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms and Bathroom. The property further benefits from having fore garden laid to lawn and enclosed rear garden with patio area. UNFURNISHED CHILDREN: Yes PETS: No DSS: No SMOKERS: No.

APARTMENT ABOVE OLIVIO'S, HIGH STREET, STOURBRIDGE



£450PCM

A two bedroom Apartment situated in the heart of Stourbridge Town Centre. The accommodation comprises of: Fitted kitchen with oven, hob and extractor fan, fridge and washing machine, downstairs WC, study/office, lounge and hallway, stairs rise to first floor landing, master bedroom with ensuite shower room, second bedroom and bathroom. The property further benefits from having central heating, double glazing and outside decking area. NB There are no parking facilities with this property. UNFURNISHED DSS: YES CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

SCOTT STREET HEATHFIELD, TIPTON



£450PCM

An extremely well presented two bedroom ground floor flat situated in a popular residential location. Accommodation comprises of hall, kitchen, lounge, two bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from gas central heating, double glazing and allocated parking. FURNISHED Furniture to include: BEDROOM: Double Bed and bedside cabinet. SMALL BEDROOM: Bed Settee. LOUNGE: Table & 4 Chairs, Chest of Drawers, TV Stand, Bookcase, Coffee Table and Curved Settee. KITCHEN: Washer, Cooker & Fridge Freezer. CHILDREN: Yes PETS: No SMOKERS: No.



HOLENDENE WAY, WOMBOURNE
An extremely well presented four bedroom detached property location in a popular residential location with accommodation to comprise: Reception hall, lounge, dining area, kitchen, four bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from gas central heating, double glazing. UNFURNISHED. Available Now DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES; PETS: NO; SMOKERS: NO
£1100PCM



ATTINGHAM DRIVE, DUDLEY
A wonderfully presented 4 bedroom unfurnished mid terrace property situated in a modern residential development. Accommodation comprises of: Entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, rear lobby, WC, four bedrooms and house bathroom. The property further benefits from enclosed rear garden, open plan fore garden, double glazing, central heating and allocated parking. UNFURNISHED CHILDREN: Yes. PETS: No. DSS: No. SMOKERS: No.
£695PCM

DUE TO INCREASED DEMAND WE REQUIRE PROPERTIES IN THE SURROUNDING AREAS



LYNWOOD AVENUE, WALL HEATH
A traditional semi detached bungalow which enjoys a highly sought after position within this prestigious address, offering an exceptionally spacious and very well proportioned layout of accommodation which is further enhanced by this delightful setting including a generous driveway to the fore together with a well maintained rear garden. UNFURNISHED DSS: No Children: Yes Pets: No Smokers: No
£625PCM



TREFOIL GARDENS, AMBLECOTE, STOURBRIDGE
A superb two bedroom first floor apartment furnished to a high standard. The accommodation comprises of communal Entrance, private entrance hall, lounge, fitted kitchen, 2 bedrooms - master with en-suite and bathroom. The property further benefits from gas central heating, double glazing and allocated parking. FURNISHED/UNFURNISHED DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO
£600PCM



SCAFFELL ROAD, AMBLECOTE
A very well presented Three Bedroom Family Home in a popular residential location. Accommodation comprises: Lounge, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom and Garage. The property further benefits from having gas central heating and off road parking. UNFURNISHED CHILDREN: YES SMOKERS: No. PETS: No. DSS: No.
£595PCM



HOLBOURNE HOUSE, SEDGLEY
A very well presented two bedroom apartment in a newly developed block. Accommodation comprises lounge, kitchen, 2 bedrooms and bath/shower room. There is secure parking to the rear of the property. Currently being re-furnished. UNFURNISHED DSS NO CHILDREN YES PETS NO SMOKERS NO
£550PCM



THE EMBANKMENT, MERRY HILL, BRIERLEY HILL
An extremely well presented two bedroom apartment located closely to all amenities of the Merry Hill Centre. Accommodation comprise of entrance hall, fully fitted kitchen, lounge, two bedrooms and bathroom. Part Furnished: Double bed / Wardrobe / Dining table and 4 chairs / Fridge and freezer. DSS: NO CHILDREN: MAY CONSIDER PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO
£550PCM



SURFEIT HILL ROAD, CRADLEY HEATH
A well presented family home comprising Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Bar Room, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom and downstairs WC. UNFURNISHED CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO DSS: NO
£525PCM



PARK STREET, KINGSWINFORD
A two bedroom mid terrace property situated in a popular residential location with accommodation to comprise of: Entrance lobby, reception hall, Lounge, dining room, fitted kitchen, cellarette, two bedrooms. The property benefits from part double glazing, gas central heating and rear garden. UNFURNISHED DSS: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO CHILDREN: YES
£500PCM



WORCESTER STREET, STOURBRIDGE
An extremely well presented two bedroom mid terrace property situated in a popular residential location close to Stourbridge Town Centre. Accommodation comprises of kitchen, diner, lounge, two bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from gas central heating, partial double glazing. UNFURNISHED. DSS: NO PETS: NO CHILDREN: YES SMOKERS: NO
£495PCM



KING STREET, WOLLASTON
A Superbly Presented one bedroom Bungalow situated in a much sought after residential location and close to all amenities of Wollaston Village with accommodation to comprise of: Lounge, Kitchen, bedroom, bathroom and conservatory. The property further benefits from having double glazing, gas central heating, rear courtyard and off road parking. UNFURNISHED DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO SMOKERS: NO PETS: NO
£495PCM



ALBERT STREET, LYE
A two bedroom period terrace property in a popular residential location, to comprise two reception rooms, fitted kitchen, hallway, lobby and bathroom. The property also benefits from a rear garden. Currently being re-furnished. UNFURNISHED DSS NO CHILDREN YES PETS NO SMOKERS NO
£495PCM



BADGER STREET, LYE
A Two Bedroom Mid Terrace Cottage near the centre of Lye Village. Accommodation comprising: Lounge/Diner, Kitchen, Lobby, Two Bedrooms and Bathroom. There is a gravelled fore-garden with, to the rear an outbuilding and enclosed lawned area. Unfurnished. CHILDREN: Yes DSS: May consider PETS: No. SMOKERS: No.
£495PCM



HOLBOURNE HOUSE, SEDGLEY
A very well presented one bedroom apartment in a newly developed block. Accommodation comprises lounge, kitchen, bedroom and bath/shower room. There is secure parking to the rear of the property. Unfurnished CHILDREN: No. PETS: No. DSS: No. SMOKERS: No.
£495PCM



LIDDIARD COURT, BELFRY DRIVE, WOLLASTON
A modern One Bed one bedroom first floor apartment with its access and entrance controlled, situated in a popular residential location and close to all amenities of Wollaston Village with accommodation to comprise of: Communal entrance with lift to first floor, hall having built in storage cupboard and separate airing cupboard, Lounge/Diner having feature fireplace with electric fire, kitchen with built in oven and hob, Bedroom with built in wardrobe and bathroom having suite to comprise of WC, wash hand basin and shower cubicle. The property further benefits from having communal gardens and residents parking. Property also benefits from double glazing and storage heaters. UNFURNISHED DSS NO CHILDREN NO PETS NO SMOKERS NO
£450PCM



YARDLEY STREET, STOURBRIDGE
A much improved Two Bedroom Terraced property. Accommodation comprises Lounge with Open Plan Dining Area, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms and Bathroom. To the rear of the property is a landscaped rear garden with patio area. FURNISHED. DSS: MAY CONSIDER PETS: CATS SMOKERS: NO CHILDREN: YES
£450.00PCM



FOXDALE DRIVE, BRIERLEY HILL
A well presented one bedroom house with accommodation to comprise: Open plan lounge, fully fitted kitchen area, double bedroom and family bathroom. The property also benefits from full double glazing, off road parking (allocated), partial electric heating and pleasant communal gardens. UNFURNISHED PETS: May Consider CHILDREN: No. SMOKERS: No. DSS: No.
£395



VICTORIA COURT, VICTORIA STREET, BRIERLEY HILL
An extremely well presented one bedroom first floor apartment, situated close to Merry Hill and Brierley Hill town centre. The accommodation comprise of Lounge, fitted kitchen, one bedroom and bathroom. The property further benefits from off road parking and communal gardens. UNFURNISHED DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO
£385PCM

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MAMBLE ROAD, STOURBRIDGE
A very well presented Ground Floor Flat in a popular residential location. Accommodation comprises: Reception Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Double Bedroom and Bathroom. UNFURNISHED CHILDREN: NO. PETS: NO. SMOKERS: NO DSS: NO.
£375PCM



QUAYSIDE CLOSE, OLDBURY
A well presented One Bedroom first floor apartment. Located within three quarters of a mile of Oldbury town centre. The property benefits from a security intercom system to the ground floor entrance with a staircase leading to the first floor. The property comprises of: Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Bedroom and Bathroom. The property also benefits from night storage and connector heating as well as Double Glazing and allocated parking. UNFURNISHED DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO
£360PCM

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men seeking women

I'm a 32 year old, single, white, male, looking for a woman who is kind, caring, and has a good sense of humor. I'm looking for someone who is interested in me and wants to go out with me. I'm looking for someone who is interested in me and wants to go out with me.

gay/friends seeking

I'm a 35 year old, single, white, male, looking for a gay friend who is kind, caring, and has a good sense of humor. I'm looking for someone who is interested in me and wants to go out with me. I'm looking for someone who is interested in me and wants to go out with me.

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Fiat embraces a greener future but still offers a rev-happy car which is fun to drive

Ultimate clean machine

FIAT'S award-winning new TwinAir concept is set to transform how drivers view petrol power's potential.

The technologically advanced low consumption 875cc two-cylinder engine is the cleanest quantity production petrol engine in the world. Yet it still manages to combine a rev-happy fun appeal with significantly more power than larger capacity four cylinder units.

The 85bhp version of the engine makes its UK debut this month under the bonnet of Fiat's iconic 500. Installing a two-cylinder engine in a Fiat 500 might seem like paying homage to the original 13 bhp model of 1957, but this decision is not primarily a sentimental one.

In complete compliance with the essential requirements of the 21st century car owner, the TwinAir engine offers an attractive means of downsizing while substantially reducing fuel consumption and exhaust emissions, but without sacrificing power or driver enjoyment.

Combined with the Fiat 500's many other attributes, this powertrain is expected to appeal to a wide variety of customers including many who may not have considered Fiat before.

Those who care about the environment will find the TwinAir's low CO2 figure appealing, as will owners who are keen to keep costs down.

And it should also find favour with trend



The new 875cc TwinAir engine is expected to account for a fifth of Fiat 500 UK sales

setters, drivers interested in innovation and new technologies, and of course customers who enjoy dynamic and fun driving. Consequently more than a fifth of future Fiat 500 sales are forecast to be TwinAir versions.

Weighing just 85kg, and with figures of 95g/km of CO2, this ground-breaking engine has the lowest emissions of any quantity production petrol engine.

However its 85bhp makes the Fiat 500 TwinAir among the most powerful mainstream A segment vehicles on sale.

And with its 145Nm of torque at a rela-

tively low 1,900rpm, it's a responsive and fun-to-drive engine too. This combination of cleanliness and power even compares favourably with many rivals' diesel engines.

Improved

Compared with Fiat's best-selling 1.2-litre petrol engine in the Fiat 500, the TwinAir delivers 23 per cent more power yet combines this with a 15 per cent reduction in CO2 emissions and fuel consumption. These amazing results have been achieved thanks to a combination of factors. FPT's MultiAir technol-



500C cabrios have the new engine too



The interior is just as stylish as before

ogy, as employed by a 2010 International Engine of the Year winner, plays a major part in this by reducing consumption and emissions. Combining MultiAir with a turbocharger helps to optimise performance at low revs while reductions in weight and size help boost performance and responsiveness.

In addition, the timing chain drastically cuts engine running costs because it is maintenance-free. Finally, a balancing counter-shaft reduces vibrations to give the smoothness and refinement of a four-cylinder.

This technology comes in a Fiat 500 that is already firmly established on the motoring landscape. And it features all the assets that have made this car such a hit. There's a choice of slick-shifting manual change five-speed gearboxes alongside the Dualogic robotised manual. This allows drivers who want automatic shifting to prompt changes simply by pushing or pulling the gear lever.

There's an extensive list of standard equipment including the all-important safety suite of ABS anti-lock brakes and Electronic Brakeforce Distribution, which along with seven airbags, have helped the Fiat 500 become EuroNCAP crash safety five-star rated. There's also a wide-ranging options list and huge scope for owners to personalise their cars, as with other Fiat 500s. On top of that, every TwinAir-equipped Fiat 500 will feature Start&Stop and a Gear Shift Indicator to help drivers achieve the best economy possible. In addition, owners can specify Fiat's award-winning Blue&Me infotainment system which allows drivers to operate their music and phone via the car's steering wheel controls or with voice activation.

Blue&Me TomTom also includes Fiat's ground-breaking ecoDrive system to give real-time fuel consumption information and advice on how to get the best economy out of the Fiat 500. As well as offering a unique proposition of power with low CO2 emissions, the high-tech Fiat 500 TwinAir is extremely competitively priced, costing from £10,665 in Pop specification. The TwinAir engine will be available across the Fiat 500 and Fiat 500C ranges in all trim levels.

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53	KA 1.3 STYLE 3DR, SILVER, 30,000 MILES		£3,295
57	KA 1.3 ZETEC CLIMATE BLACK, 16,890 MILES		£4,995
09	NEW KA 1.2 ZETEC SUNRISE, 6,000 MILES	£7,995	£6,995
59	NEW KA 1.2 ZETEC 3-DR. DIVE, 1,133 MILES	£8,995	£7,495
FUSION / FIESTA			
03	FUSION 1.4 PETROL 2.5-DR VITRO, 33,626 MILES		£3,495
07	FIESTA 1.25 STYLE CLIMATE 5-dr. Silver, 40,656 miles		£4,995
07	FIESTA 1.6 ZETEC 3-DR. RED, 42,253 MILES		£6,995
59	FIESTA 1.25 EDGE 3-DR. OCEAN, 11,688 MILES		£8,995
59	FIESTA 1.25 ZETEC 5-dr. Black, 13,683 miles		£9,495
58	FIESTA 1.4 ZETEC 5-DR, 16in ALLOYS, TANGO, 17,000 MILES	£10,995	£8,995
09	FIESTA 1.4 ZETEC 5-DR, SILVER, 10,318 MILES	£9,995	£9,495
09	FIESTA 1.4 TDCI STYLE + 3-DR DIESEL, BLACK, 9,414 MILES	£9,995	£8,995
10	FIESTA 1.4 ZETEC 5-dr. Vision, 13,145 miles		£9,995
10	FIESTA 1.4 TITANIUM 5-dr. Black, 13,290 miles		£10,495
59	FIESTA 1.6 ZETEC S 3-DR, STREET PACK, S-SKIRTS, BLACK, 11,477 MILES	£11,495	£10,995
09	FIESTA 1.4 TDCI DIESEL, TITANIUM, 5-DR, SILVER, 15,000 MILES		£11,495
FOCUS			
04	FOCUS ZETEC 1.6 3-DR. SILVER, 56,000 MILES		£4,495
05	FOCUS 1.6 LX 5-dr. Red, 22,940 miles		£5,495
56	FOCUS 1.8 ZETEC 5-DR. JEANS, 29,612 MILES		£6,995
57	FOCUS 1.6 TDCI STYLE 5-DR. GREY, 62,000 MILES		£6,995
58	FOCUS 1.6 STYLE 5-DR + SPORT PACK- INC 12MTH WTY! OCEAN, 29,652 MILES	£9,495	£7,995

	C-MAX	WAS PRICE	MEGA SALE
08	C-MAX 1.6 ZETEC 5-DR. AVALON, 27,954 MILES	£9,495	£8,495
MONDEO			
07	MONDEO 1.8 LX PETROL 5DR. GREY, 25,401 MILES		£6,995
56	MONDEO 2.2 ST TDCI 5-dr. Black, 30,863 miles		£9,995
09	MONDEO 2.0 TDCI ZETEC 5-DR, THUNDER, 26,989 MILES	£13,995	£11,995
09	MONDEO 2.2 TIT X SPORT 5-DR, SILVER, 30,200 MILES		£15,995
59	MONDEO 2.0 TITANIUM X SPORT 5-DR, 7" DVD, NAV, BLACK, 6,110 MILES		£18,995
59	MONDEO 2.0 TIT X SPORT 5-DR, SEA GREY, 6,225 MILES	£19,995	£18,495
09	MONDEO 2.0 TITANIUM X PORT TDCI ESTATE, AUTO, DVD, NAV, BLACK, 14,692 MILES		£19,995
KUGA			
58	KUGA 2.0 TDCI 4WD ZETEC BLACK, BLUETOOTH, 19,298 MILES		£16,995
58	KUGA 2.0 TDCI ZETEC 2WD F+R PDC, Silver, 10,374 miles		£16,995
09	KUGA 2.0 TDCI ZETEC 2WD APP PACK, 18in ALLOYS, GREY, 3,300 MILES, BLUE TOOTH		£16,995
NON-FRANCHISE			
07	VECTRA 1.8 LIFE 5DR PETROL, SILVER, 43,358 MILES		SOLD
07	RENAULT CLIO 197 SPORT BLUE, 32,867 MILES		£8,995
06	FREELANDER 2.0 TD HSE AUTO, SAT NAV, LEATHER, BLUE, 55,000 MILES		£10,995
56	BMW 1 SERIES 120i MSPORT 5-dr. Red, 55,028 miles		£10,995
56	MERCEDES C180 KOMPRESSION EVOLUTION S LEATHER, SILVER, 11,500 MILES, AUTO	£11,995	£10,995
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Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range: Urban: 16.5 (17.1) – 61.4 (4.6), Extra-urban: 32.8 (8.6) – 88.3 (3.2), Combined: 24.2 (11.7) – 76.3 (3.7). CO₂ emissions: 274 – 98g/km.

Under the Motability New Car Contract Hire Scheme, a driver can get the use of a brand new Vauxhall for 3 years by paying an Advance Payment (if applicable) and the Higher Rate Mobility Component of the Disability Living Allowance each month. Advance payments will vary according to model selected. Offer valid between 01/10/10 and 31/12/10, to qualify you must be in receipt of the Higher Rate Mobility Component of the Disability Living Allowance, which will be taken in lieu of the monthly rental. Full written details, including terms and conditions, are available on request. The facilities offered are for the hire of goods. The Motability New Car Contract Hire Scheme is administered by Motability Operations, City Gate House, 22 Southwark Bridge Road, London SE1 9HB. (Vaux102478)

Motor-Market

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56	Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.5 DCI DYNAMIQUE Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD, FSH, £30 road tax	£4695	£30	
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55	Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.9 DCI DYNAMIQUE Silver, Diesel, A/C, Alloys, CD	£4195	£28	
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56	Reg	Vauxhall VECTRA 1.8i LS Gold, A/C, CD, Stainless exhaust, FSH	£2495	£16	
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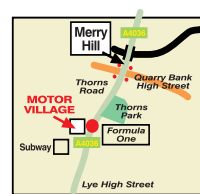
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BD09RZT	Kia Sportage Xs Crdi Estate	Black	£14,995
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VX09OGO	Suzuki Grand Vitara DDIS Estate	Grey	£15,995
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VO57YZL	Hyundai Getz Gsi 3-door Hatchback	Red	£4,995
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LD08RDV	Kia Cee'd LS CRDI 5-door Hatchback	Red	£9,795
LB08WGP	Kia Cee'd LS CRDI 5-door Hatchback	Black	£9,795
LC08OEU	Kia Cee'd LS CRDI 5-door Hatchback	Silver	£10,495
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VF55LUW	Kia Rio LX CRDI 5-door Hatchback	Blue	£4,995
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BL06LWO	Renault Megane Maxim 5-door Hatchback	Silver	£5,495
CU07KYY	SEAT Leon 1.9cdti sport 5dr	Red	£8,995
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KU07HUH	SEAT Leon Stylance 5-door Hatchback	Red	£10,995
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VO57URP	Kia Cee'd GS CRDI 5-door Hatchback	Abyss Blue	£7,495
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LG08ZGB	Kia Cee'd LS CRDI 5-door Hatchback	Silver	£10,495
LD08RDV	Kia Cee'd LS CRDI 5-door Hatchback	Red	£9,795
LB08WGP	Kia Cee'd LS CRDI 5-door Hatchback	Black	£9,795
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FE59BOU	Kia Cee'd LS CRDI SW Estate	Grey	£12,495
VF55LUW	Kia Rio LX CRDI 5-door Hatchback	Blue	£4,995
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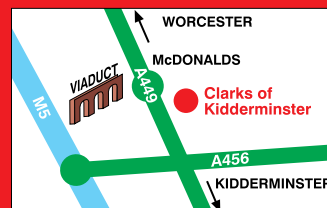
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BA04WCX	Honda Civic Vtec Executive	Grey	£5,495
BL57HVV	Kia Picanto Ice 5-door Hatchback	Silver	£5,495
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VK08YZM	Kia Picanto 5Dr HAT 1.0	Black	£5,195
VU55PYB	Citroen C3 Xtr Auto	Blue	£4,995
VO57YZL	Hyundai Getz Gsi 3-door Hatchb	Red	£4,995
VF55LUW	Kia Rio LX CRDI 5-door Hatchback	Blue	£4,995
BL52HGY	Peugeot 206 Convertible	Silver	£4,995
BD08LCJ	Chevrolet matiz 1.0 se a/c	Super Red	£4,695
VK55VUX	Ford Sportka Se 3-door Hatchback	Silver	£4,495
VU55YLJ	Kia Picanto Glamour	Red	£4,495
LB06CNJ	Kia Rio GS 5-door Hatchback	Silver	£4,495
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sport

Come and join us ... Ryan Shore, aged 13, and Cristina Vernava, 10, are hoping more young players will become members of Lye Badminton Club



Badminton plea for juniors

A BADMINTON group is appealing for more junior players following a move to their new Hagley home.

Lye Badminton Club has around 30 members from across the Dudley borough and the group is looking to boost its numbers further.

They are regularly visited by professional coaches and three young players have already been selected to play for Worcester County squads this year.

Club secretary Liz Hamar said: "It's great to give young people the opportunity to progress to the 20 local adult

teams that play in the Cradley and District Badminton League. I have been playing badminton for 40 years and am still absolutely addicted!"

Lye Badminton Juniors meet every Thursday from 6pm to 8pm at Hagley Roman Catholic School, Brake Lane.

Pay as you play sessions for eight to 16-year-olds cost £2.50 and rackets are provided, while players are asked to wear trainers and bring their own refreshments.

Call Liz Hamar on 01384 377691 for more details.

We'll finish up in top 6, says boss

Tara has world at her feet with kickboxing title

CHARLESWORTH Martial Arts are on top of the world after 17-year-old Tara Billingham won the World Kickboxing Associations Title.

Tara, of Holly Hall, Dudley, travelled to Scotland for the competition and faced plenty of tough opponents from around the globe.

She saw off a Canadian, an Italian and two German fighters to be crowned world champion, while also finding time to represent England in the cadet girls side which also won the team crown.

Jason Charlesworth, chief instructor at Charlesworth Martial Arts, in Old Hill, paid tribute to his star pupil.

"Tara is having an amazing year and has won nearly every competition she has entered," he said.

"She has now topped off the year by adding yet another individual and team world title to her every growing list of achievements."

Tara trains nearly every night at our school so I'm not surprised at her success."

Team CMA Villans are jetting off to Germany to represent England at the end of November, with the German Open being one of the biggest European tournaments for all martial arts disciplines.

Jason also runs a full time boxing gym where Danny the DOG Yates stopped his opponent in the second round with a technical knockout at a show in Oldbury recently.

Danny represents Pride Boxing this Saturday against a tough opponent from Wales.

Anyone interested in martial arts or boxing can contact Jason on 07889 627929.



Tara Billingham with her World Kickboxing Associations medal

STOURBRIDGE Saxons' director of rugby Neil Mitchell says the team is on course for a top six finish in National League One after Saturday's victory over Otley propelled them up the table.

"We said we were aiming for the top six this season and we have got a shot at it," said Mitchell.

However, the Stourton Park chief warned his side they would have to improve on their performance in a scrappy game at Otley if they are to claim maximum points this weekend (to 3pm).

"The officials did not ruin the game, we conspired to make it difficult for ourselves," he explained.

"We are a young side and we can be naive in how we talk to the referee, which didn't help."

"We committed too many to the breakdown, which we haven't been doing in recent games."

He did see positives from the match though, praising the defensive contribution of centre Tom Jarvis and the place kicking of Alistair Bressington.

Mitchell was also pleased with the way his side closed out the match despite having only 14 men on the field after Jordan Page's late yellow card.

"It is another step forward for this young team," said Mitchell. "Had it been a few years ago we



Stourbridge centre Tom Jarvis

would have struggled to hang on to the win, but this team has got something about it."

"We have got two home games now and if we win those we will go into Christmas on a high. Tynedale have not been playing well, they lost to Roselyn Park, Redruth and Barking and historically they don't travel well."

"If we clear up the areas we struggled in at Otley we can do well. We have got to back ourselves and come out strong."

And with a number of his fringe players out on loan, Mitchell explained that the lack of injuries would mean just a few tweaks going into Saturday's game.

"If I have to I'll call people back, but it is difficult to change a winning side," he added.



Stourbridge front row forward Jordan Page makes progress at Otley during his team's third successive victory in National League One

Matt'll do nicely as Stour make it three

TWO second-half tries were enough to see Stourbridge over the line in a scrappy, stop-start encounter at Otley, coming away with a 16-21 victory that makes it three in a row in National League One.

In the end scores from Matt Williams and Will Davis were enough to see Stourbridge home, but they were made to work hard until the final whistle by a game Otley outfit.

The home side did not look like as if they had only won twice this season when centre James White took the first phase of the game 50 yards through a huge gap in the Saxons midfield before offloading to James Twomey, who went over unopposed.

Stourbridge have made a habit of such early setbacks, so their heads do not drop when they suffer them. Instead they battle back, with the back row unit of James Rodley, Rupert Cooper and James Freeman to the fore.

Rodley went closest to a first-half try for Stourbridge, knocking on as he stretched for the line, while the Alistair Bressington's runaround seemed

to have put Matt Williams in, but he was denied when the touch judge spotted a forward pass in the move.

In the end the visitors had to settle for three Ali Bressington penalties, which gave them a 9-5 lead at the interval.

Three minutes later and Rodley raced through to pick up the loose ball from a kick ahead got the ball away with a lovely pass over his shoulder for Williams to score.

The pressure on Stourbridge was ramped up a notch and replacement Jordan Page was yellow carded for his team's persistent offending around the breakdown. Otley had to settle for a late Christian Georgiou penalty and a losing bonus point.

So near yet so far as battling Kings toppled in eight-goal thriller

WHITCHURCH 5 KINGSWINFORD 3

KINGSWINFORD started this vital match nervously and found themselves 2-0 down within five minutes. They pulled a goal back when Abrar Baig raced into the D and fired in a reverse stick shot.

The second half saw Kingswinford pile on the pressure and veteran Richard Turner, put clean through by Surjit Takhar, had his low right-hand shot well saved by the Whitchurch keeper. Baig was then harshly yellow carded for a late tackle that was more to do with him losing his footing than anything nasty.

Takhar spun off his marker and fired a shot against the post as Kingswinford threatened further, but Whitchurch soaked up the pressure and through their impressive forward claimed a goal on the counter attack.

At 3-1 Kingswinford were given a lifeline when Takhar raced past two challenges and was hacked down by the last man, winning a penalty, which Chris Brown converted.

Kingswinford failed to take advantage of their dominance when Ash Baig blasted his

shot straight at the keeper and Dave Williams could not force the ball over the goal line.

They were then reduced to 10 men again when Takhar was given a harsh yellow for using his body in a 50-50 tackle and Whitchurch scored from a short corner to make it 4-2.

With a big final push, Kingswinford scored via a short Brown corner, which was forced home by Abrar, and the score stood tantalisingly at 4-3. The final five minutes saw Whitchurch cement victory after a rare error of judgement from Kingswinford stopper Wasim Iqbal.

Kingswinford's Sonny Matharu said: "I am amazed Whitchurch are in this position given their performance today. We tried hard and I cannot fault the guys."

KINGSWINFORD 15 WHITCHURCH 0

Two draws in two games from a much improved Kingswinford seconds side had marked a promising start to the season. They faced bottom of the table Whitchurch expecting big things and were not to be disappointed.

HOCKEY

Daman Johal opened the scoring with a well taken finish from close range and this opened the floodgates for what can only be described as a rout. Ed Parkes was effective down the right of the pitch, with captain Adam Pritchard just as invaluable in the centre.

Goals came freely, though two excellent strikes in particular stood out – one from Sam George, who skinned two defenders and slammed the ball into the bottom corner, before Daman Johal brilliantly powered in from the top of the D.

Guneet Uppal's drag flicks were deadly from short corners and Cole Hickman was always alert to any opportunity, clinically finishing three times for his hat-trick. Johal and Uppal, who scored four goals each, are now climbing up the top scorers table.

Kingswinford's defence was rarely tested, though veteran Parj Sangha and James Rawlings cut out any chances Whitchurch had, leaving keeper Tom Hickman with little to do.

All in all it was an excellent performance and, in truth, the margin of victory could have been greater still, judging by the amount of chances the home team failed to convert.

KINGSWINFORD 11 PERSHORE 0

After watching the seconds thrash Whitchurch, Kingswinford thirds repeated the feat against Pershore with another crushing victory. The game started slowly and the home side's intentions were clear in that they were going to press with attacking hockey. The pressure paid off with a number of short corners and the goals started to flow, with hat-tricks from Tom Reed and Ranjit Bhadal.

WEDNESBURY 2 KINGSWINFORD 1

The Badgers all played well against a much older Wednesbury side, narrowly going down 2-1. It was an even match with lots of attacks and a fair few chances for both teams. The Badgers fought back to claim an equaliser after Wednesbury opened the scoring but Wednesbury snatched the win with a lucky deflection from a short corner, with the whistle going after the corner was given.

No joy despite pressure

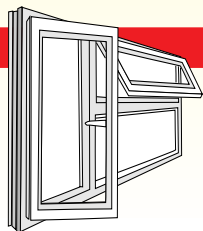
DUDLEY LADIES 0 WEM LADIES 0

DUDLEY started the game with a high attacking tempo and it was not long before they were aiming numerous shots at the Wem keeper. The hosts forced a succession of short corners but were struggling to capitalise on the opportunities they created. In the second half Dudley applied constant pressure to the Wem defence but, despite numerous attempts on goal and further short corners, they had to make do with a goalless draw.

DUDLEY LADIES 0 WEST BROMWICH LADIES 7

The seconds were soundly beaten at home to West Bromwich, despite defending admirably from the start.

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